



Spring 2021

Volume 29, Number 1



**What's wrong with this picture?  
See page 26.**

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# The Stack's Bowers Galleries June 2021 Auction

*Featuring Selections from the Norman G. Peters and Bill Gleckler Collections*

June 2-4, 2021 • Costa Mesa, California

The Norman G. Peters of Colonial Coins has been a half century in the making, and Stack's Bowers Galleries is pleased to be offering this lifetime collection in a series of auctions in 2021. Norm collected an example of each type and variety he could locate, and has extensive die variety collections in many colonial series. Included in our June 2021 Auction will be Norm's Massachusetts silver and copper coins, St. Patrick, Rosa Americana, Wood's Hibernia, and Voce Populi coinages, Nova Constellatio and Vermont coppers, Machin's Mills halfpence, Washington pieces, Fugio coppers, and many other colonial types. Shown here are a few highlights whose photos were available at press time. Countless other great coins will be on offer, including a lovely and previously unrecorded 1787 Vlack 17-87E Machin's Mills halfpenny and a gorgeous 1777 Franklin of Philadelphia medal in bronze. Part 2 of Norm's collection will be offered in our November 2021 Baltimore C4 Auction and will be focused on his New Jersey and Connecticut coppers.

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FROM THE NORMAN G. PETERS COLLECTION

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1788 Vermont Copper. RR-26. R-6.  
VF-25 (PCGS).



1788 Vermont Copper. RR-36. R-6.  
Fine Details (PCGS).



1787 Massachusetts Cent. Ryder 2b-G.  
R-6+. Fine-15 (PCGS).



1787 Massachusetts Cent. Ryder 8-G.  
R-6+. Fine-15 (PCGS).



1787 Fugio Copper. Newman 15-H. R-4.  
EF-45 (PCGS).



1787 Fugio Copper. Newman 12-X. R-3.  
MS-63 BN (PCGS).



St. Patrick Halfpenny. Vlack 1-A.  
AU Details (PCGS).  
*Ex Ted Craigie. One of the most finely  
detailed halfpence known.*



1787 Fugio Copper. Newman 8-B. R-3.  
MS-64 RB (PCGS).  
*Ex Garrett Collection.*

For additional information  
about the June 2021 auction,  
contact Vicken Yegparian  
([VYegparian@StacksBowers.com](mailto:VYegparian@StacksBowers.com))  
or Kevin Vinton  
([KVinton@StacksBowers.com](mailto:KVinton@StacksBowers.com))

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## The C4 Newsletter

Volume 29, Number 1

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Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer at P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554. Dues are \$30 regular (including 1<sup>st</sup> class mailing of the *Newsletter within the US*) and \$40 (for 1<sup>st</sup> class mailing outside the US); \$10 for junior members (under 18 residing in the US) and \$15 (under 19 residing outside the US.)



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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(Craig McDonald)

Welcome to the Spring 2021 issue of the C4 Newsletter.

Before I go any further, I must again interrupt my thoughts to comment upon the loss of one of C4's biggest supporters and a true powerhouse in the field of Colonial numismatics...Sydney F. "Syd" Martin, who passed away on January 19th.

Elsewhere in this issue, Roger Siboni shares his remembrances of Syd. If you did not know Syd, hopefully it will help you to begin to comprehend what a great friend, collector, and man he was. And if you did know Syd, you understand that no written summary could ever fully do his memory justice.

Several weeks before Syd passed, I had the privilege to inform him through his wife Sharon, that C4 had created ***The Sydney F. Martin Numismatic Publication Award***. Details appeared in the Winter 2020 Newsletter and on the website. As Roger mentions in his article, it brought Syd some amount of happiness in his final days to know that C4 had honored him in this way. And with his passing, the award has now been renamed ***The Sydney F. Martin Memorial Numismatic Publication Award***.

As this Newsletter goes to press, the 2021 Whitman Winter Coin Show is currently scheduled for November 18 through 20 in Baltimore. We all have our fingers crossed that they will be allowed to hold the show and that we will be able to hold our Convention in conjunction. Keep checking the C4 website for information as things unfold. And assuming we are able to gather this year, because of last year's successful virtual Convention, we are working on the logistics to live stream the Thursday evening *EPN Memorial Lectureship Series* presentations, along with any breakout presentations on Friday and Saturday. **If you have never attended a C4 Convention, I cannot stress strongly enough that you should make every effort to try and attend....and if not this year, start planning to attend next year!**

C4 has renewed its agreement with Stack's Bowers with regards to the Colonial coins auction session of their Winter Sale held in conjunction with C4's Convention. Please see a short summary elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter.

And I am (*personally*) excited to announce that the long awaited and eagerly anticipated new book on Connecticut Coppers, by C4 member Randy Clark, is at the printer and will hopefully be available sometime in June! This book represents close to two decades of work by Randy in conjunction with numerous collectors and researchers in the field of Connecticut coppers. This 700+ page masterwork will be available from both Charlie Davis and Dave Fanning, and represents the ninth publication in which C4 has been involved.

If there is ever anything you wish to bring to your Club's officers, do not hesitate to reach out to your respective Regional Representative, or your VP or President. Everyone's contact information is in the front of each Newsletter, or on the website.

Now go grab yourself a mug or glass of your favorite beverage and enjoy the Newsletter!!

Craig



## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

### **✉ Re: The Winter 2020 Issue of C4N**

Dear Editor:

I've spent the last two evenings reading the latest newsletter (vol. 28, no. 4,) and I decided to do something that I've probably never done (but should have) ... write a letter to the editor about how much I am enjoying it. It's an exceptional issue, and that says something because with the C4 Newsletter, I have high expectations.

First, the "President's Corner" is both well written and thoughtful. Craig, I have to say, we seem to be looking at the world through very similar glasses – embracing the digital world but with a balanced approach. I welcome you as President and look forward to your tenure.

Maybe the nicest thing about this issue was the scope and the variety. There is something for everyone, as well as things that should speak to each of us based on the many things that the hobby means to us – the remembrances of Clem, for example. I would have been happy to submit one, but his legacy is certainly well represented. These members did a nice job of capturing one of our most beloved members and friends. Thank you for devoting the space and including the photos. I've seen the "Clem Head" before ... so glad that it is here enshrined. I'm also proud to have several of Clem's New Jerseys in my personal collection – that too, is a way that our late friends live on in our hearts.

There's an announcement of a new variety (Roger Moore,) a well-illustrated article on die states (Jim Glickman,) and a nice little colonial code (couldn't leave that out.) There are also a number of quick read articles. Plus, I particularly enjoyed the personal stories of Patrick McBride (someone I don't know) and Frank Weisensee (a collector I know well ... a friend.) And it just keeps going. What a wonderful issue!

I'm saddened, as I'm sure you are, by the passing of Syd Martin (like Clem, too young.) He will be greatly missed. Time marches on. We've lost so many. It's been a rough couple of years (for CT collectors especially.) But someone must be filling the ranks. Auction prices seem to be strong. The hobby seems healthy even though, thanks to the Covid-19 pandemic, it's a bit underground at the moment.

As we all know, it takes a club, not just a great editor to turn out issues of this caliber. Will could never do this without submissions (I know – I’m stating the obvious,) so more than anything, our newsletter speaks to the strength of C4 itself. Often, we see the same names in the bylines, but every issue I see a name or two that I don’t recall seeing before. That’s another thing to love about C4 … new people, stepping up in ways that add to our wealth of knowledge or simply to our enjoyment of our mutual hobby.

Be well,  
Buell Ish



✉ ***Re: Pioneering Research on Machin's Mills***

I recently received a copy of the new book, *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills* by Jack Howes, James Rosen and Gary Trudgen. It is a very good book on the subject. However...

On November 7 of 1997 I gave a talk to the C4 club entitled “Thomas Machin, James Atlee and Abel Buell.” I read from an 11-page double-spaced article that was written over the previous year by me in collaboration with Ed Sarrafian. About 15 to 20 people attended, and about 15 of them were handed printed copies of the talk I delivered. Ed Sarrafian and I answered questions afterward. The talk was later printed in the Spring 1998 issue of *C4N*. The title of that C4 printed article is “Machin's Mills Coins: Condition Census, Die States, Discoveries and Estimated Rarities by Grade.” This *C4N* article was also acknowledged and documented in Q. David Bowers' Book, *Colonial and Early American Coins* and his book on Vermont coinage. Also this talk can be found documented on the *Newman Numismatic Portal*.

This talk, 23 years ago, was the first, and perhaps only one, given on Machin's Mills Coinage to C4. Yet, for some unexplained reason, there was absolutely no acknowledgement or documentation of my talk in the new book, *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills*.

In the talk and on the written pages of the speech there were several important points mentioned which were never given any acknowledgement or credit as having come from Ed's and ideas and mine, our work, talk or article. These points are:

1. We gave a chronological list of the certain dies of Machin's Mills halfpennies that were discovered and by whom. Some of that information was only known to me and not to any of the three authors of the new book. Bob Vlack was my first colonial coin mentor when I started collecting colonial coins in 1961. I would go to his house every 2 or 3 weeks, buy a few coins, and get an education. Early on in 1961 and 1962 I had a fascination with Machin's and I found out from Vlack which Machin's he had discovered and when. And of course I knew

which varieties I had discovered and when. I also knew of Bett's discoveries and others. In the new book the only difference between our list and the book's list is that the new book lists the discoveries in order by die variety sequence. And the book lists the two new discoveries post-1997. In the new book this information is given on page 88. (For what it is worth we no longer believe that 1772 Vlack 24-72C is a Machin's or Atlee brewery mint product of New York city. We do believe it is most likely an American product.)

2. We listed a rarity scale and condition census very similar to the one given on page 89 of the new book. In fact I also gave a new rarity scale based on base 2. It is very similar to the URS scale used in Q. David Bowers' Book, *Colonial and Early American Coins*. In fact in 2007, Q. David Bowers asked for and got from me a written copy of our talk of 1997. He wrote me back a very nice thank you letter (copy to Christine Karstedt and Doug Plascencia.) But more than that, Q. David gave acknowledgments to me and Ed both in his new book on colonials and his new book on Vermonts. The only other person to ever ask for written copies of our talk was Peter Griffin. I honestly cannot imagine that not one of the three authors of the new book on Machin's had never heard of or read Ed or my article. It had been well documented in the past.
3. We listed die states for some Machin's coins.
4. We stated that the four counterfeit Massachusetts cents were Machin's products. This was my belief as early as 1962. I bought from Bob Vlack the photographic plates for Massachusetts coppers, Vermonts and New Jerseys. They were hard to get and cost \$10 per page. The four Massachusetts counterfeits were under a line at the bottom of one of the plates. Bob knew they were counterfeits, but he never ascribed them to Machin. When I told him I did, he completely agreed. I also mentioned this to my other peers in the early 1960s, such as Ted Craige, Henry Dittmer and Bill Anton. They all believed I was correct. I never published anything on this until we gave the C4 talk in 1997. I did get my 5-I early on at a NENA auction given by Jim Kelly. Jim told me that the 5-I was his coin. When I told Bill Anton of my belief, he was smart enough to buy Bob Vlack's 14-J in Unc which came from Spink. So Bill and I both eventually got nice 14-Js and 5-I examples. I got my 14-J from Ford.

5. We also stated that certain Vermonts and New Jerseys were Machin's products.

I also own two other halfpenny counterfeits that deserve to be mentioned at the back of the new book in section 7. One is what I believe to be an American counterfeit of a 1747 George II Machin's halfpenny. There are 2 known examples of this: my VF and a double struck VG ex-Mike Ringo which Syd Martin was astute enough to buy out of the Ringo sale.

While our talk and article were not nearly as detailed and descriptive as the new book by Howes, Rosen and Trudgen, they were groundbreaking and certainly deserve not to be completely overlooked. They should be acknowledged for some of the above points. In conclusion, Ed and I don't want to be consigned to oblivion so soon.

Richard August and Ed Sarrafian



Editor's Note: Your editor also received correspondence from the authors of *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills*. That correspondence reads:

## **The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills**

### **BOOK ERRATA**

The authors - Jack Howes, James Rosen and Gary Trudgen, would like to correct an inadvertent omission of two important articles on the coinage at Machin's Mills in our Bibliography, along with the following typos and to also clarify an oversight. The additional references were very helpful in the determination that the four counterfeit Massachusetts coppers were made at Machin's Mills and the oversight was that the die state information of many of the counterfeit and imitation British halfpence was courtesy of Richard August and Ed Sarrafian. The knowledge and expertise that these men bring to this field has certainly helped advance the thinking of this coinage.

1. Page iii: 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence; Change “acknowledgeable” to *acknowledge*.
2. Page 84: Last sentence of the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph; Delete “nicely” after discoveries.
3. Page 95: Under Conclusion, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence; Change “Both these signatures” to Both *of* these signatures....
4. Page 102: 2nd paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> line; Delete “counterfeit and”.
5. Page 208: 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> line from the bottom; Change “believe” to *belief*.

6. Page 234: 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 6<sup>th</sup> line, Change “to this section” to *to section 1*.
7. Page 250: 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph, last line, Change “after Chapter 6” to *in Chapter 7*.
8. Bibliography: Add the following reference; August, Richard, and Sarrafian, Ed, “Thomas Machin, James Atlee and Abel Buell,” *The C4 Newsletter*, Vol. 6, No.1, spring 1998.
9. Bibliography: Add the following reference; August, Richard, and Sarrafian, Ed, “Machin Mills Coins: Condition Censes, Die States, Discoveries, and Estimated Rarity by Grade,” *The C4 Newsletter*, Vol. 6, No.1, spring 1998.
10. Index: August, Richard, iii, 88, 99, 111, 120, 161, 223, 243, 279



## THE JOURNAL OF EARLY AMERICAN NUMISMATICS

*The Journal of Early American Numismatics (JEAN)* is a research journal based on the former *Colonial Newsletter (CNL)* dedicated to the study of early American numismatics. Founded in 1960, *CNL* continuously published some of the most scholarly and seminal studies in this area of numismatics. Focusing on the study of the coinages produced by the states during the Confederation period of the United States, *CNL* also investigated a variety of other specie that the U.S.’s forefathers used in their daily lives. *JEAN* expands the focus of *CNL* with contributions on numismatics of all the Americas during the same time period covered by *CNL* and is published as a bound scholarly journal twice a year in June and December. In 2019, *JEAN* received a Numismatic Literary Guild award.

Issues of *JEAN* normally run around 200 pages or more and contain articles on a variety of American Colonial numismatic topics. The upcoming December issue will contain extensive research on the Fugio coinage and restrikes. Since 1960, almost every major advance in our understanding of the history of Fugio restrikes has appeared in *CNL*. The December issue of *JEAN* continues this tradition with major articles completely rewriting our understanding of this coinage.

Subscribe to *CNL*: <http://numismatics.org/store/cnl/>. \$65 per year for ANS members and \$80 for non-members. Contact Christopher R. McDowell, at [crmcowell@strausstroy.com](mailto:crmcowell@strausstroy.com) for additional information. Please note that *JEAN* has a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism and will not publish articles that include items currently in (or currently being prepared for) commerce.



**SYDNEY F. MARTIN [1945-2021]  
AMELIA ISLAND, FLORIDA  
NOTHING BUT A KIND WORD.....**

(Roger S. Siboni)

How many people have you run across in life that you can *truly* say, with unwavering *conviction*, now there goes a person who *EVERYONE* has nothing but a kind, appreciative, warm hearted word to say about them.



I have known a lot of people over the years, numismatically and otherwise. And across the many endeavors I ventured out upon with Syd Martin, I found him amazingly unique in that way. There truly wasn't anyone that did not have a kind word say about him. One of the most decent, intelligent, generous, funny, warm hearted people I have had the good fortune to know and consider a close friend in all my days (also see <http://numismatics.org/martin-obit/>.)

Syd was an MIT graduate. One of the ways he worked his way through school was scouring flea markets for antique pocket watches and reselling them to antique and watch dealers in nearby cities. Up until this last year, Syd still scoured flea markets (finding things like his R-7+ Ryder 37.) He remained one of the largest pocket watch collectors and top authorities on the subject until his last day.



He and his son put together an extensive collection of American Coin Silver. He collected maps, paintings, books, early American Silver and on and on. Syd was not just a

serious author, but first and foremost a bibliophile and we built our libraries together and often in deep consultation with one another. Frequently we traded to supplement one another's collection.

And at the ANS Huntington Award Ceremony in November 2020, the rest of the world found out his passion for 1932 Washingtonia - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yafx3CBv3QU>. I still remember the ANA convention when we zig zagged an afternoon and evening chasing down original 1932 Washington Quarter Cast Molds.

I knew Syd since the early days of C-4, but we started to become closer friends just before the Stack's O'Donnell Sale (early 2001.) We quickly found out that we shared business and investment interests, similar family challenges, shared so many likes and dislikes. But most interestingly, had this peculiar fit with one another in collecting.

We both applied a lot of analytics to our collecting. We were both playing a long game. And both felt that we were in this for the enjoyment, passion and accomplishment. And if we overspent, or never fully recovered some of our purchases, in the words of Sheldon, never spend more than you can good naturally afford to lose. Or as Syd used to say, think of it as "greens fees."

But all this instructed a collecting journey we travelled together. Syd envisioned completeness. And sought out advice on building his library to completeness -- what might that entail -- from Evelyn to the latest Machin's Mills publication by Howes, Rosen and Trudgen. We would talk endlessly about what it would take for each of us to achieve our goals and speak in terms of decades. I must say, I felt some sense of shared accomplishment when Syd crossed the incredible, never to be equaled, 350 Connecticut Copper Variety mark very recently and the 10 Higley Copper variety mark a short while ago. I shared that journey with him, even bidding on a few for him over the years (as he did for me.)



The Last Three from November 2020 Bringing Syd to 350 Varieties. All R-8s!

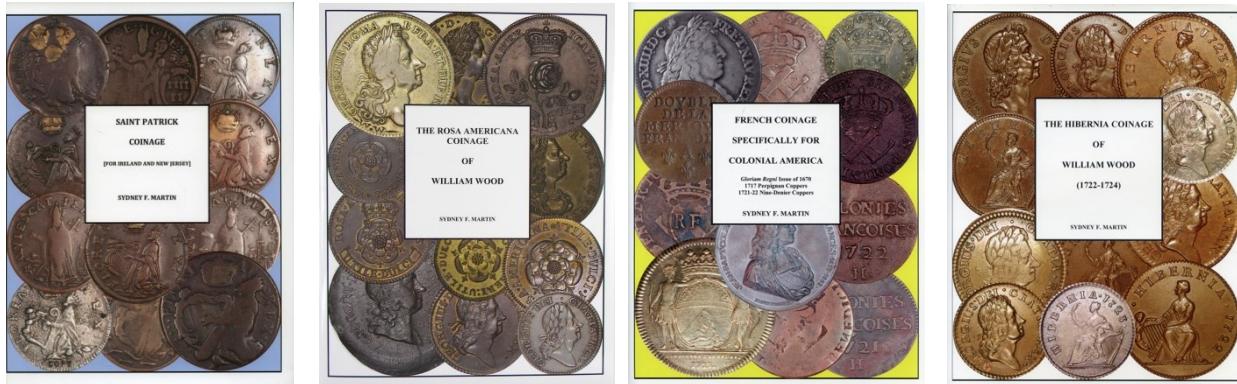
We also knew that no matter what we spent, there were always more coins to be had than we could ever acquire. All said, we enjoyed the hobby immensely together and collaborated far more than competed. We purchased several collections together large and small. We pursued things like the granular detail of Washington Inauguration button manufacturing. Which ones were period and true varieties and which were not? I am not sure with whom I will ever again get to discuss the inner workings of early American uniform buttons.

Syd was a key member of our Colonial field trip posse. We went on too many to recount. But some favorites were a few days up to New Hampshire to visit Stacks/Bowers and QDB and team to leisurely look view and study Norweb's Washingtonia. Or several days in Colonial Williamsburg to see everything no one sees behind the scenes with Eric Goldstein, Leo Shane, and Ray Williams. If not for Covid, we had planned a field trip to South Carolina early last year to see the location and ground works for our favorite Battle and General in the American Revolution. The Battle of Cowpens and Daniel Morgan (the movie *The Patriot*,) that we each own a rare bronze *Comitia Americana* Medal for that we respectively purchased in the 2019 Adams Sale. A Sale we both attended and discovered as we were bidding that we had been both ejected from our Baltimore convention hotel rooms and had to scramble for a place to stay in a sold-out city after the auction that night!

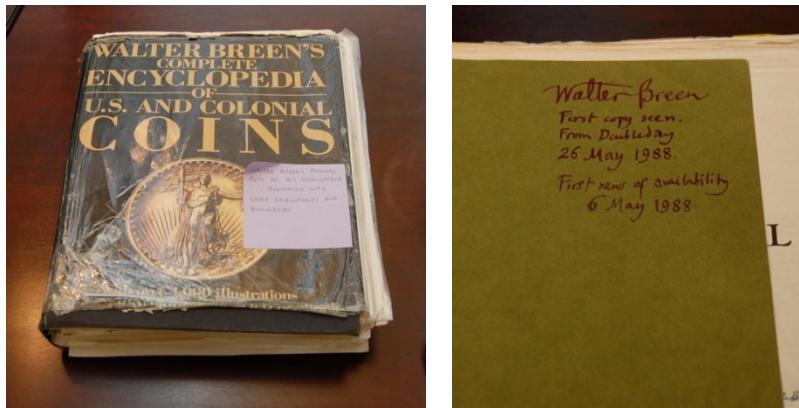


To meet Syd, one would never know of his incredible accomplishments (see <http://numismatics.org/martin-obit/>.) His genuineness and modesty where one of his most endearing traits. And he always had a sense of gratitude for his good fortune which gave him a passion for giving back. He did so financially in so many ways, but more so with his personal time. Something that is far more difficult to give. I certainly remember that in some of the most challenging times for the ANS, there were few people willing to undertake bold initiatives to turn the fate and fortune of that Institution around. But Syd stepped in with both feet and helped us get through some very choppy times up to and through the financial crisis of 2008. And when my tour of duty was done, there was no better champion to guide the ANS through its next decade at Hudson Square than Syd. A decade culminating not only with his successful Presidency, but receipt of the prestigious Huntington Award (<http://numismatics.org/2020-huntington-award-to-syd-martin/>)

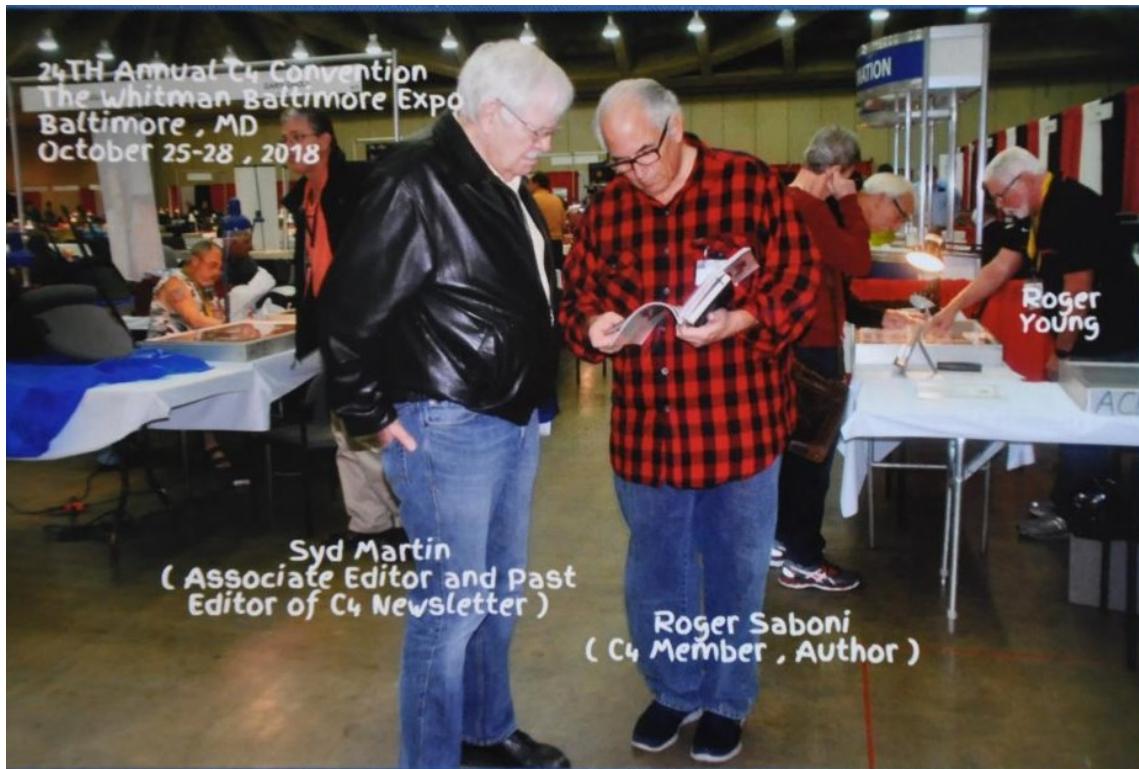
Syd was a force of nature when it came to numismatic writing. While we obviously cheered, aided, supplemented each other's research over the years, my contributions are small compared to Syd's. I can remember so clearly how he approached each book and project. It had to be incredibly vast and complex and honestly, a subject given up for lost. But interestingly, every book actually started with Syd ruminating about purchasing a major collection in the area in which each of his books was eventually written in. He would come across vast variety collections in one area or another, and that was really the draw for that collection purchase. A new book! That was always the starting point to examine every variety so that something could be written to bring order to chaos.



In addition to everything else, Syd has assembled one of the finest numismatic libraries in the Country. He was on the Board of NBS and a member of the Antonelli Society. I sold Syd his first set of AJNs and CNLs. I had a bit of a head start, but Syd got the bug and soon we were building together and pursued very similar holdings. We shared bookbinders and bookplate makers. But I can remember one biblio moment in particular. Syd's brother Tim, through some numismatic coincidence, through Tim's law firm in Denver, somehow ended up handling Walter Breen's widow's estate. The estate included Walter's numismatic library that Syd purchased and had shipped to his office in Doylestown. There were about five large three by three boxes. I was there when they arrived. They had been packed away since Walter's days in Berkeley and not opened since. Well, upon opening the boxes, it unleashed an overpowering leafy odor. By the time all five boxes were opened in the office, it was like being at a Grateful Dead concert.



But of all the things I will miss about Syd, I will miss my “old school” collecting best friend. Numismatics is an old school hobby at its finest. Filled with ritual, traditions, friendship, scholarship, education, community and philanthropy. Syd considered himself lucky to be able to enjoy numismatics as he did. And we really indulged and immersed ourselves in the hobby together. We studied collectors of the past and saw what they did. From bookbinders, to two-by-two flip engravers, field trips, ANS and C4 leadership work, coin photography and photographers, sponsoring things like digitizing the colonial coin images at the ANS for MANTIS or the Robert Martin Notebooks at the ANS and on the Newman Portal (along with Anthony Terranova.) Negotiating collection acquisitions. And doing coin shows the old school way.



There were so many Coin Shows and Auctions. But I think one of our favorite rituals were coin shows in Philadelphia. Coin Shows in Philadelphia always have a colonial flavor. It was an easy drive for Syd from Doylestown and me from New Jersey. We would always stay at Syd's very elegant and Mainline Philadelphia Union League Club. We would need to bring suits and ties for dinner and evening drinks while there. We would come mid-week and stay through the weekend. Maybe plan a side field trip to visit the Ben Franklin Museum to do some research on maybe Nini plaques. We would enjoy every minute of the show spending time with all the collectors and dealers present that we knew. Sometimes together, sometimes on our own. Usually attend whatever auction is going on and usually each go home with something we were proud of. Then go back to the club, dress, have dinner and meet a few more collector friends at the Club cigar bar and dissect the happenings of the day. I will greatly miss my good friend Syd Martin

I feel some sense of goodness and peace in Syd's passing though. I know that he moved on feeling a great deal of personal accomplishment in achieving his major collecting goals, particularly 350 Connecticut varieties. His writing goals with his four books, the C-4 Newsletter, and the Huntington Award. That he was genuinely respected by his collecting friends for his hard work and knowledge that was earned, not bought. But most importantly, that he was truly liked in numismatics as a friend and peer. He was so touched at the very end that all his friends in C-4 saw fit to name their Numismatic Author's Publication Award after him (<https://colonialcoins.org/news/>.) He was awake and in good spirits the last few days before passing and left with a smile.

Syd, you were always too modest to fully understand how we will all miss you.



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## SYD MARTIN – A PERSONAL REMEMBRANCE

(Jeff Rock)

Coming so soon after Clem Schettino's death, the passing of Syd Martin extended the numbness that we all surely felt. 2021 was supposed to be better than this, a year where we again saw our friends and enjoyed our shared hobby – knowing that there are people we will never see again is indeed heartbreaking.

I've likely known Syd longer than most people in the hobby, indeed from the time his interest in colonial coins reawakened in the early 1990s. I would put out price lists of colonial coins every few years, and Syd would always be one of the first people who called. His orders were mostly a few thousand dollars, and in the early days he would ask if it were OK to pay it over a couple months – of course it was, and a check would arrive the exact day Syd said it would because, above all, he was a man of his word. Most of us in the hobby did not know that Syd owned several companies, and in the beginning Syd never paid himself much, preferring to plow income back into the business and the salaries of his employees. This changed when most of those companies were sold – there was no longer a budget that needed to be followed, and Syd's already large collection would grow exponentially. But money never changed who Syd was as a person. Designer clothes and sports cars were never his style. I remember sharing a flight with Syd a few years after the sale of his companies. We were both heading to New York for an auction on layover flights – and there was Syd sitting in coach with me, because as he said, it was over \$3,000 to upgrade to first class and that could buy him a few more coins in the auction.

Outside of Virgil Brand and John Ford, I cannot think of someone who acquired so many great colonial coins in the space of just 15 years. This, of course, had much to do with timing as that time period saw the dispersal of the Ford and Eric P. Newman collections, sales of key portions of the Donald Partrick and William Anton collections, the Norweb Washingtonia collection, as well as many smaller and more specialized collections that contained the series that Syd enjoyed the most. One would have to travel back well over a century to an era with the sale of the Crosby, Bushnell, Mickley, and Parmelee collections to have the same number and quality of colonial coins offered at public auction in the space of just a few decades.

The first auction that Syd had a substantial amount of money to devote to his hobby was the portion of the Ford collection that contained the Rosa Americana issues and the Connecticut coppers – two series that Syd greatly enjoyed, and the timing was thus fortuitous. Syd purchased nearly all the Rosa Americana pieces he needed, and all but a few of the Connecticut copper varieties he lacked. Even though he had more than enough money to do so, Syd could not quite get to the point of paying \$100,000 for a single Connecticut variety, but he took the bidding right to that level. Donald Partrick won those lots, and while Syd always regretted not going a few bids higher, he knew it would have made no difference: Don was going to own them no matter the cost, and Syd would have to wait his turn. Syd's patience was rewarded though, and he was able to acquire the three main lots he missed out on when Partrick's Connecticut coppers were recently sold, and there is something fitting in knowing

that in the last major colonial auction Syd participated in he was finally able to bring those pieces home, to the largest collection of varieties ever likely to be formed for the series. The price Syd paid for all three coins was about what Don paid for one of them – so sometimes one's patience can be doubly rewarded!

At another Ford sale, containing his superb French Colonies collections, I thought I would be able to pick up quite a few coins to add to my own collection of the series, which was then around 800 pieces. But Syd again steamrolled the competition, buying every variety he needed, getting into bidding wars that saw prices 10-20 times higher than pieces had sold for in the past (though the Ford coins were of such quality to make price comparisons difficult.) A few months after the sale Syd and I decided that it made sense for him to acquire my French Colonies collection intact, and in fairly short order he purchased a large Canadian collection of the series, as well as much of the Bob Vlack and Ted Craige collections that appeared at auction. Needless to say, his collection of this remarkable series is the largest and most complete ever formed. Yet Syd wasn't someone who bought everything in sight to the detriment of other collectors – he knew the hobby was strongest when there were a lot of collectors, and he knew that collectors needed to add things to their collections fairly regularly to stay interested. At the Vlack sale there was a rare mintmark of a Sous Marques that I lacked in the collection I restarted shortly after selling my first. Syd asked what I wanted most out of the sale and I mentioned this piece – and even though it was a variety he lacked (though he had the date and mintmark as another die variety,) Syd let me buy the coin. Again, his patience was rewarded, as when it came time to sell some of my second collection Syd ended up with that piece and a dozen others that he lacked.

Syd and I had very similar tastes. I started out collecting Connecticut coppers and, as a dealer, that series was always the largest part of my inventory and price lists; it was Syd's favorite series out of all the colonial and state coinages as well. We both were fascinated by the French Colonies and hooked on the seemingly endless date and mintmark varieties. At the first sale of Mike Ringo's collection of counterfeit British and Irish coppers Syd showed he was interested in those as well, picking up the stars of the sale: the unique Banana Nose, the then-unique 1783 British. Syd picked up other interesting coins at the sale as well, drawn mostly to the very crude pieces – which were my tastes exactly. It was a foregone conclusion as to who would win any sort of bidding battle, and my hand usually went down as soon as his went up, both out of resignation to the inevitable but also because Syd was a friend, and if I wasn't going to own those coins, I was happy that he would. A few years later I attended the only Roger Siboni BBQ event that my schedule has allowed me to make, and I brought along two of my prized counterfeits – a newly discovered variety of the Banana Nose, and a new ground find of the 1783 British halfpenny which had been unique just a few years earlier. Syd was nearly as tickled as I was to see them, and he brought along his own Banana Nose to compare the two coins directly. To me that said a lot about Syd, the man. He enjoyed his coins, but his enjoyment was not solely due to his owning them – or owning multiple examples and keeping others from owning them, a charge that has been fairly leveled at Ford and other collectors of an earlier era.

Syd saw something interesting in every coin he owned – whether it was a 6-figure rarity in impeccable condition or a low grade, rough Connecticut copper he picked up for \$10 at a

flea market and spent 3 hours trying to attribute. That is the mark of a consummate collector. Not someone who cares about population reports, market trends, registry sets, or jockeying for position on the condition census. For the first half of his colonial collecting career Syd was happy with VF-EF coins, and willingly accepted lower grade examples for rarer varieties. When his tax bracket increased, he was able to add much higher-grade coins, but he never felt the need to chase the finest known of every variety. Many of the pieces in his collection will surely merit that description, but if he owned a nice AU of some Connecticut copper variety that was fifth finest in Robert Martin's condition census notes, he was unlikely to upgrade to an Unc that was finest or second finest known. That said, Syd tried hard to find a reason to keep EVERY colonial he bought. Different die state? Keep. Unusual planchet? Keep. Error strike? Keep? Different planchet size? Keep. Different die rotation? Keep. Counterstamp? Keep. Painted Die Variety? Keep. Etc., etc. I suspect that most of us who collect would do the same if our finances (and storage space) permitted.

But, unlike a Virgil Brand who carefully wrapped his coins and stored them away after viewing them once, or a John Ford who was loathe to share what he had (mostly out of fear that people would then know what he did not own, and drive the prices up when those pieces appeared,) Syd freely shared his collection. If someone was writing a book on a series that Syd collected, images and data on his coins were there for the asking. There were numerous C4 conventions where Syd brought some of his extremely rare varieties to flesh out displays in the exhibit cases or to show at various Happenings, both at C4 and EAC conventions. He took great pleasure in bringing something special to the nearly annual Siboni BBQ events – but got just as much enjoyment out of seeing what everyone else brought to show-and-tell. There was even a Connecticut copper whist match (something that really needs to be brought back on a regular basis) in which Syd's unparalleled number of varieties won out over collections that contained fewer varieties but in generally higher grade. If a whist match were to be held with Syd's Connecticut coppers today the results would be the same as the only collection that might rival it overall was Partrick's, which is now dispersed.

Syd wrote books on Hibernia, Rosa Americana and St. Patrick's coppers and the French Colonies issues specifically struck for North America. All four of these areas have been collected for centuries, but because of the near impossibility of distinguishing individual die varieties in them, they were really only collected as type coins. A few earlier authors had tried to go into die variety detail, though with very limited success: Bob Vlack on the Hibernias and John Griffie on the St. Patrick coppers were the two that got the furthest, though neither were anywhere near ready for publication – the first with good textual descriptions but hampered by a lack of photographs, the second without any clear system of differentiating die varieties. Syd realized that what was needed was a critical mass of specimens in one place – and while good-quality photographs were useful, ideally he wanted the coins in-hand, easy to examine. So he set about purchasing many hundreds of examples in each of these series, allowing him a large enough sample size to do the nitty-gritty work of identifying obverse and reverse dies and tracking which combinations they were used in. But simply owning the coins (or having a good photograph) wasn't all that was needed to get a book written. A special kind of brain is required to bring order to chaos, to make sense of what had long been confusing, and to develop a system of identification and classification that worked. Syd brought an engineer's mind to the task and accomplished in a few years what had languished undone for centuries. It is safe to

say that if Syd had not been here to do this work, it would have remained undone for decades – or maybe even centuries – more. It is also a testament to the quality of his work that few new die varieties have been found in any of these series that Syd covered.

Syd was generous with his knowledge in our hobby, but he was equally generous with his time and his money. I cannot imagine the time constraints of running a single company – Syd ran several highly complex ones with multiple divisions and over 3,000 employees at the same time. Despite the busy schedule that must have entailed, Syd stepped in and served as the editor of *The C4 Newsletter*, taking it from an indifferent and irregular small, chatty journal to an award-winning publication that came out exactly when he said it would, and each issue with a good mix of articles that made it a pleasure to read. Syd served as the third American Numismatic Society President in a row whose primary collecting interest was colonial coins, and it was his support that got *The Journal of Early American Numismatics* off the ground.

It's no surprise to anyone that knew him that soon after selling his companies Syd set up a charitable foundation that has doled out nearly a million dollars in grants to very worthwhile organizations that helped feed those in need, provide for veterans, and care for the great outdoors.

I saw his generosity on a personal level as well. Syd placed an order from every one of my price lists since he became active. Early on the orders were for varieties he needed but, as his collection grew, his orders were for things he didn't especially need but which he just found interesting or unusual. He ordered a coin from my most recent price list in late 2019 (2020 having other plans for all of us.) It wasn't a rare piece – he probably had ten or more of the variety in grades from Unc down to VG – nor was it high grade or valuable. But it had a natural hole in the planchet that was there before the coin was struck, and he found that neat and made room in his collection for it. Years earlier, during the recession, I know Syd helped many dealers pay their mortgage or rent by buying similar things that he didn't particularly need – but he knew that sales were slim and some of us needed help through a difficult financial time. When I decided to finish up the late Rob Retz's work on Fugio coppers Syd and Tony Terranova each put up half of the cost to print the book – all proceeds from the sales went to C4, neither of these fine gentlemen cared about getting their money back, they did it for the good of the hobby and the club.

Everyone who knew Syd likely has similar stories – he was, in short, a good, kind and generous man. Our little niche of the hobby is far better off for having Syd as a major part of it, and our lives are better for having him as a friend. He will be greatly missed, but as that great philosopher Dr. Seuss said, “Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.”



## A SYD MARTIN REMEMBRANCE

(Christopher Young)

It is with a heavy heart that these words are written. The passing of Syd Martin represents the end of an era. A very learned man and a true friend. Syd had a passion for many things, but our common ground was the colonials. I met Syd circa 1994 at a small show around Philadelphia. We instantly clicked! At that first meeting he said to me, "I like your coins and I like your prices." We sat down and broke bread together on numerous occasions and enjoyed many hours of contemplating various colonial varieties and die states.

One of the more interesting and memorable experiences was on May 10, 2005 at the Ford sale of Connecticut coppers in New York City. I was sitting right by Syd and there was enough background chatter that we couldn't hear each other clearly. I mentioned to Syd that I thought he had overlooked lot 355, the 33.2-Z.17. I was bidding on it and I asked him if I should keep bidding. I heard him say "Go Go Go!" and was happy to lock that coin in for the paltry sum of \$15,000, plus the juice. He had in fact been saying "No No No!" Being the gentleman he was, he did buy that coin from me down the road.

The passion Syd had and his organizational skills were phenomenal. He had a great eye for rarity and quality seldom encountered. This person was a breath of fresh air in life. Syd, you have given so much to so many on so many levels! My friend and mentor, you will be deeply missed but always held in the highest regard! Thank you for years of trust and friendship.



## ONLINE REMEMBRANCES OF SYD

The following is just a sampling of the many comments and sentiments posted to the Colonial Coins Google discussion board upon news of Syd's passing.

### **Eric Cheung**

So sorry to hear of this news :( One of the last times I had seen Syd in person was in summer 2017, when my wife and I hosted him in our new apartment as he was photographing the remainder of my St. Patrick's collection for what turned out to be a real masterpiece of numismatic literature. That was 17 years after I had first met Syd, when he offered me a carpool to my first C-4 Convention as I was a senior in high school. My parents were initially skeptical of my going to a coin convention without their "adult supervision" for a few days, but I guess they became "fast friends" with Syd, and so off I went to the convention where I also met a number of folks on this list for the first time.

Syd was always a gentleman and was perennially so generous with his time and knowledge of the hobby. The C-4 numismatic publication award in his name is a great tribute, and a real honor to the future recipients of the award.

**Mike Wierzba**

This is awful news and was a message I have been dreading hearing these past couple weeks. I don't even know where to begin....

Syd was a very close friend and a major influence in my life. We had a very close relationship, both in business and personally. I have so many fond memories of my time spent with Syd, talking coins, cigars, bourbon, family, etc. It has been such a crappy year I know for many, but I personally am struggling to comprehend friends that have been taken away far to early the last few months. I will never forget what Syd has done to shape me in so many ways, and his loss is a major one, not just for our hobby, but his amazing family and friends.

**Jeff Rock**

I've known Syd for 30 years or so and I cannot think of a single person I respected more than he. Syd has done so much for our little part of the hobby, and everything he signed up for he did with integrity and passion. Syd was the consummate collector, an intrepid researcher who brought order and understanding to arrest that were nothing but chaos for centuries - and he was a friend to all who knew him. RIP, Syd. "I shall never look upon his like again."

**Craig McDonald -**

While many in C4 knew Syd much better than I did, I believe I can possibly lay claim to having met Syd before anyone else.

While I don't recall the exact date, it was most likely in the very early 90s that I was introduced to Syd, while I was still living in PA.

There was a monthly coin show (3rd Sunday if I recall) held at the Holiday Inn in Montgomeryville PA, about halfway between Allentown and Philadelphia. At this show was an old-time coin dealer named Byron Hoke. While Byron didn't specialize in Colonials, occasionally he would have a decent coin or two. I still have four VTs, and a similar number of CTs, all purchased from Byron.

Byron's was always the first table I would visit upon arriving at the show. So one Sunday, after I had already visited his table, I was walking around the rest of the show and walked up the aisle where Byron was, when he called me over to his table. Standing there was a gentleman in (if I recall correctly) a plaid shirt and a leather vest. Byron then proceeded to say, "*Craig, let me introduce you to Syd Martin. Syd is*

*thinking about starting to collect Colonials. What books or catalogs can you recommend he start with?"*

At that time, the two main references I carried with me to shows were the 1975 Pinetree EAC Sale and Taylor Sale catalogs (hence my belief that it was probably the early 90s.) So I got them out and showed them to Syd.

We talked for a few minutes and then parted ways. Little did I know the force of nature that was about to be unleashed! And to this day I like to think that perhaps I played just some minuscule part in it.

### **Leo Shane**

I am still in the process of coming to grips with Syd's passing but I need to relay one of my favorite memories I shared with him. Living in Bucks county PA, I had the great luck of living about 8 miles from Syd's House and office. Earlier when he lived in PA and later during his frequent visits Syd, Ray and I (and sometimes others,) would get together for lunch. Since Syd and I lived so close, we sometimes drove together to meet up with Ray. It was on one of these occasions that Syd asked me to stop over his office before we went to lunch since he wanted to show me something. Syd wanted to show me his collection of Washingtonia.

On a previous drive to lunch, I had mentioned to Syd that as a kid I was fascinated with the Washington Ugly Head piece. It is listed in the Colonial section of the Redbook and up until recently had no value associated with it. What a mystery and why was it so crudely made. I was young and didn't know much about minting technology or Colonial history for that matter, but this coin just fascinated me. (Maybe it's the same as the ugly Cabbage Patch Kids craze of the 1980s. lol)

After spending some time browsing through Syd's collection, he pulled out an electro of an Ugly Head piece made from one of the originals. While I was looking over the electro, Syd reached into the box of coins and pulled out another coin that he hands to me. It was an original Washington Ugly Head Piece. So, after 50 plus years of collecting, I finally got a chance to see the coin in person and hold it in my hand. This was a thrill that only another numismatist could understand. As we left to meet Ray, in jest, I offered him \$100 for it. He laughed and said we wanted to keep it a little while longer.

This is one of a few great memories I will have of Syd. I hope that Syd finds many other Colonial Coins in the next world and he can show me some of them when I get there.

**Peter Griffin**

I did not know Syd well, but his passing will leave a huge void in the heart of our hobby. His energy and commitment will be impossible to replace. I remember an evening at a C4 convention, where Robert Martin, Syd, Randy Clark, and I had dinner, and then Robert showed us all his '86 CTs, in the flesh, up in his room, after dinner. It was magical. I thought this happened 3-4 years ago, but Randy tells me it was 10 years ago. We have lost some titans of the hobby.

**Ray Williams**

Thanks for that memory. I woke up this morning just overwhelmed with memories of his hobby assistance, his and Sharon's hospitality in Florida, visiting his NJ Copper collection in his PA office... I remember the boyish excitement in his face when I gifted him a holed Rosa Americana I had just purchased for \$10, so he could use it for destructive testing for his book. Many memories.

**Mike Packard**

What a shock and what a loss. He was a gifted and special person. We will miss him. My condolences to his family.

**Dave Menchell**

This comes as a real shock. I figured that he wasn't doing well when he was unable to participate in the recent ANS Gala but I wasn't expecting this. Syd was truly a titan in the pantheon of Colonial numismatic researchers and writers, up there with Crosby, Maris, Miller and Newman. A significant portion of our library shelves are occupied with the books that were the result of his scholarship and labors. Always a gentleman and generous with his time, I always valued his opinions on a wide range of topics. Our hobby has lost one of its greatest contributors and supporters. RIP, Syd.

**Phil Mossman**

What a tragic loss! We worked so closely together over the years. My deepest sympathy to his family.



## CHALMERS ICONOGRAPHY, ANOTHER TAKE?

(Mark R. Vitunic)



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Arguably one of the quirkiest designs among all Early American coins and tokens is the 1783 “Worm Shilling,” issued by Maryland silversmith John Chalmers. Chalmers also issued a “Rings Shilling,” as well as sixpence and threepence pieces; all are silver and listed in the 2021 *Red Book* on pages 52-53. The Worm Shilling comes in two varieties, which have historically been called “short worm” and “long worm,” shown in the close-ups below.



SHORT WORM



LONG WORM

A common description of the obverse scene reads something like: two birds fighting over a worm, oblivious to the threat posed by a snake, patiently waiting across a hedge. But what does it mean? The most commonly cited interpretation is that the birds represent the

former colonies, now states, fighting over trivial matters while the snake represents either Great Britain waiting to attack them once again, or an overbearing federal government. Interesting and intriguing. Following is a different take and it all starts with the worm.

But first, for a little historical perspective, consider the state of affairs in Annapolis in 1783: The Revolutionary War had just come to an end; the Treaty of Paris was signed in Paris in September and was to be ratified in Annapolis in January 1784. Annapolis was to serve as the temporary capital of the U.S. for the next 6 months. The states were still governed under the Articles of Confederation, a loose confederation of sovereign and mostly independent states with a weak central government. It is notable that Maryland had been the very last state to ratify the Articles (1781,) primarily due to concerns over western land disputes, but this concern had been resolved. Ongoing debate focused on how best to structure a federal government going forward, balanced with states' rights. Some of the issues at the forefront were how to repay the war debt and presenting a united front to foreign governments. And now back to the coin...

**The worm:** Crosby called it a branch.<sup>1</sup> If it's a worm, it's a really BIG worm. On the "short worm" variety it has a distinct head at the lower end. On the "long worm" variety it looks like it has two heads! But what could that be? The second head was likely a mistake by the die cutter<sup>2</sup>. This looks like a smaller snake, which suggests a different interpretation of the meaning. Birds eat snakes just as snakes eat birds, depending on which one has a size advantage. Bowers also questions whether this is really a worm or a snake<sup>3</sup>.

**The birds:** No dispute here. They have been called doves, but that extra detail does not seem relevant to the meaning. They have also been called sparrows, an attempt to link them to Thomas Sparrow, who was a fellow silversmith of Chalmers and whose initials appear on the sixpence pieces. Also, are the birds fighting over the meal, or sharing the meal?

**The hedge:** Clearly, it's a barrier of some kind separating the two scenes of action. It has been called a hedge, a bar, and a fence. It has been interpreted to represent the Atlantic Ocean, the edge of the western frontier, and the Appalachian Mountains, depending on what the snake is interpreted to represent.

**The snake:** Snakes are often used to represent something bad or menacing (but not always.) In this vein, the snake has been interpreted to represent Great Britain, an overbearing federal government, the dangers of the western frontier, or even Canada. The snake certainly does not look like it is ready to attack the birds but rather either doesn't see them or is indifferent to their doings.

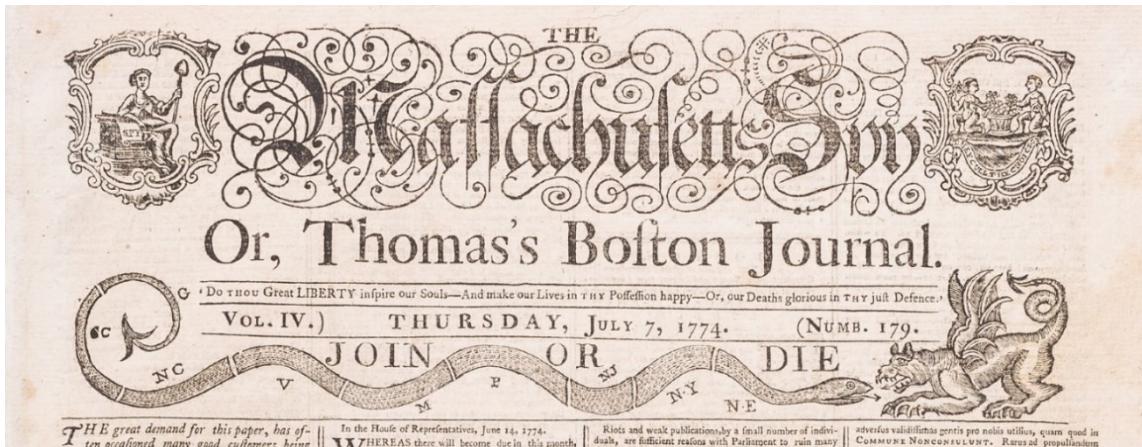
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<sup>1</sup> Sylvester S. Crosby, *The Early Coins of America*, pg. 328.

<sup>2</sup> The left bird also appears to have three legs.

<sup>3</sup> Q. David Bowers, *Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial Early American Coins*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, pg. 72.

**A new theory:** The big snake represents the united former colonies. There is precedent for this symbolism in Ben Franklin's famous *Join, Or Die* woodcut<sup>4</sup>, first published in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* on May 9, 1754, and later reprinted in several other colonial newspapers. The image served as propaganda urging the colonies to unite with Great Britain in the lead-up to the French & Indian War (1756-1763.) More than a decade later, now in the lead-up to the Revolutionary War, this theme was repurposed slightly, still urging the colonies to unite, but now *against* Great Britain. Variations on the original graphic also appeared in several colonial newspapers, one example being in the masthead of *The Massachusetts Spy* (1770-1776,) where the snake looks strikingly similar to the snake Chalmers created years later. During and after the Revolutionary War, newspaper cartoons on both sides of "the pond" used a snake (sometimes a rattlesnake) to represent America, but with different sentiment.



So a much simpler interpretation of Chalmers iconography is: the snake at the top represents strength in unity (all of the states) contrasted with the vulnerability an individual state (the smaller snake below) might encounter going it alone. Hence, another plea for unity. If one looks at the other symbols Chalmers chose for his coinage: 2 hands clasped in a handshake, a wreath, and a chain of 13 interlocked rings, there is a consistent theme of unity, and in this case an example of what can happen when there is none. Thus, the birds are not the colonies, but rather, take your pick of outside dangers (Great Britain, the frontier, etc.)

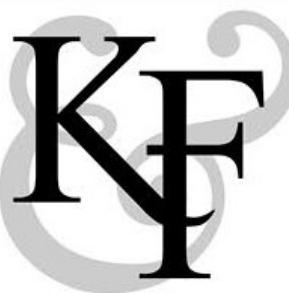
With a bit of imagination, one could also read the obverse top to bottom as "13 minus 1", with the larger snake representing 13 (the colonies/states) and the smaller snake being eaten representing minus-1, with the result being the denomination (12 pence = 1 shilling.) A hidden double meaning? A stretch, yes, but an interesting rebus akin to the obverse description of the New Yorke in America token.

<sup>4</sup> Why are there 8 segments and not 13? Franklin combined the 4 colonies of New England (CT, RI, MA, NH) under a single head segment labeled "N.E.", Delaware is missing because it was governed as part of Pennsylvania prior to declaring independence on June 15, 1776, and Georgia was inexplicably forgotten.

As the snake at the top of the “long worm” variety is also bigger than the corresponding one on the “small worm” variety, it would be more correct to call these varieties “small snakes” and “large snakes.”

What YOU think: The reader is encouraged to for a moment forget all previous opinions, including the one presented here, place yourself in Annapolis in 1783 and look at the picture again with a clear mind. What do you think the intending meaning is?

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## THE PANAMA HOARD

(Marcus Mayhugh)

Sometime around 1976-1977, an amazing hoard of Spanish silver 4- and 8-reale coins was discovered somewhere in Panama. This hoard is now known by various names, The Panama Hoard, The Portobello Hoard, The Camino Real Hoard, and The Mule Train Hoard. All these designations are based on speculation because so little is actually known about the discovery of this cache of coins. The only positive fact about the hoard is that it was discovered in Panama, and most all other details are rather sketchy. It would therefore seem appropriate to simply call it "The Panama Hoard."

The hoard consisted of some 4,500 pieces, of which 85% were pieces of eight (3,825) and the remaining 15 % (675) being pieces of 4 (Kleeberg.) The majority of the coins were from Potosi with just a few from Mexico and Columbia. All the dated Potosi pieces were from 1617 to 1629, with other coins with dates that covered the entire era of the 17th century up to 1629 and ending there. This led to the conclusion they were deposited sometime around 1630.

A. Torrey McLean was lucky enough to examine a large group of 2,000 coins from the hoard in 1992, and he says some were beautiful and some were ugly. He states they were from the reigns of Philip III, 1598-1621, and Philip IV, 1621-1665, with a few struck prior to 1598, from the reign of Philip II. McLean goes on to relate the particulars of the coins in his article, "The Portobello Treasure Hoard of 1630." He tells us the hoard was dispersed in two separate groupings: the first, in 1977-1978, was a group of 1,500 pieces that local residents sold to dealers who quickly sold them to other dealers and collectors. A second distribution of the remaining 3,000 pieces was sold by Panamanian police and military officials after the fall of Manuel Noriega in 1990-1992. McLean was very fortunate to be able to examine the 2,000 coins or else very little would be known about the details or content of the hoard. As mentioned previously, details are rather sparse, which is the case with most hoards that are uncovered. Secrecy and deception are usually involved. As a matter of fact, outside of McLean's article and Daniel Sedwick's sale descriptions, references to the hoard are extremely hard to locate.

During his examination McLean made some important observations: 1.) The coins showed no signs of corrosion, and 2.) They were covered with a reddish dust. According to McLean this indicates the coins were concealed within a wall or foundation of some building "completely protected from the elements." Others have described the patina as an "orangish sediment" (Sedwick.) McLean also noted that none of them was holed, implying the coins were used for large commercial purposes and were not circulated in hands of the public.

Anyone slightly familiar with Panamanian history can easily understand why a person would secret a large stash of coins in the walls or basement of their home or business. Panama, especially Portobello, was a dangerous, unhealthy backwater in the early 17th century, except for twice a year when the treasure fleet sailed the wealth of South America up to Panama City on the Pacific side, load it on pack mules, and transported it across the Isthmus on the "Camino Real Trail," sometimes called "The Old Gold Road," an earlier land version of the Panama

Canal. The first termination point of the trail was Nombre de Dios. Later it was moved to Portobello and its superior harbor. The gold, silver, emeralds, and pearls of South America were a constant lure for pirates, privateers, and scoundrels, which just might warrant hiding a large group of coins in the walls of your house. Sir Francis Drake called Nombre de Dios "The treasure House of the World."

There is no evidence of any specific danger in 1631 that might cause one to bury treasure, but just to illustrate how perilous it could be, Francis Drake spent two years in the jungles and coasts of Panama planning on attacking the treasure train. He succeeded in 1573, somewhere near Nombre de Dios, capturing a treasure train of 200 mules, each one loaded with 300 pounds of treasure. Having no way to transport such a large amount, he is said to have buried tons of silver along the Charges River and never returned to recover it. This tale is largely responsible for the hoary old tale of buried pirate treasure which hardly ever occurred otherwise. In 1601, one William Parker attacked and captured Portobello missing the treasure train, yet still acquiring 10,000 ducats, a substantial amount of loot. Later, the pirate Henry Morgan took both Portobello and Panama City capturing untold wealth. Finally, Admiral Vernon took Portobello in 1739, as we all know, with just six ships. All of these demonstrate how risky it was to have a large amount of money laying around in Panama and just might necessitate the need to bury it.

One of the more interesting names for this hoard is "The Pack Train Hoard." In this version of the cache, a pack mule, loaded with silver, tumbled off the side of a cliff into a river below, which was infested with poisonous snakes. The story goes that the Spanish could not persuade the native bearers to scale down the cliff and recover the treasure because of the snakes. Running behind, the train moved on with every intention of recovering the silver later. But there it lay for 350 years before being discovered in the 1970s. Now this makes for an intriguing story, but is it true, or even feasible?

The pack mule saga is definitely feasible, but highly unlikely. Looking at one the trails running from Panama City on the Pacific side, to Porto Bello on the Caribbean side, one can see how easily it would be to topple off the trail. The trail consisted of rough stones and was barely wide enough to allow the passage of a cart either way. (See photo.) If traveling at night, or in the rain, a mule could just possibly slide off the trail and into a ravine. Another thing that might cross your mind is, could a single pack mule support the load of 4,500 large silver coins? Again, the answer would be in the affirmative. Conducting some very simple calculations the combined weight of the 4,500 coins would very roughly weigh around 248 pounds, well within the limits of what a large mule could carry. There are many references to Spanish mules carrying 300-pound loads and a US Army mule was said to be able to carry 250-pound loads with a hundred pounds of tack. Therefore, there would be no problem with one mule carrying the entire content of the hoard.

Problems with the pack mule story...Well, it's hard to believe the Spanish would leave that amount of money behind, and even harder to believe they would forget about it. There would be an accounting at the end of the trip, the Spanish being meticulous about their treasure, and coming up that many coins short would call for an investigation. As for the natives refusing to retrieve the coins, let's just say the Spanish could be very persuasive. When it came to facing

the snakes or losing certain body parts, the natives would surely reconsider. Another problematic factor with this story is the condition of the coins. Most of the coins in this hoard are very high grade, EF-AU, exhibiting only orange colored sediment, reddish, if you will, which is actually quite attractive. Had they laid on a riverbank, or in the river itself, for over 350 years, exposed to rain, flooding and other elements they would show much more evidence of corrosion. Yet the coins show hardly any evidence of this. In his "Virtual Shipwreck and Hoard Map" Daniel Sedwick sums it up quite nicely when he says, "The most believable story we have heard (albeit the least romantic) is that the hoard was found stashed in the wall of a house that was torn down in 1977. The political atmosphere under General Noriega kept most of the coins in hiding until the 1990s."

McLean also noted that the Panama hoard contained a large number of coins that exhibited a transposition of the basic design elements.



Correct positions of castles and lions, and of obverse shield quadrants. Photo by author.



Transposed positions of castles and lions, and of obverse shield quadrants. Photo by author



In 1986, he was made aware that these types of errors existed on Potosi coins when he was shown several such cobs by the noted Latin American specialist, Louis Hudson. The two decided that these mistakes, letters punched into the die backwards, and shields displaying "Lions and castles" rather than the correct "Castles and lions" were the work of a dyslexic die worker rather than just random mishaps. This confirmed the observations first put forward by Leah L. Miguel, who, while working on the coins of Atocha and Santa Margarita shipwrecks noticed these irregularities and passed her thoughts on to Hudson. The fact that she had a son with dyslexia made her receptive to the idea. McLean went on to write an article expounding

on the theory in the June Numismatist, "The Case of the Dyslexic Die Maker, The Numismatist, June 1992.

In closing, coins hoards have always held a grip on the colonial collector's imagination. The more mysterious the better. For example, the Stepney and Castine hoards are debated endlessly. Likewise, buried Spanish treasure conjures up special images in the psyche, be they from "Treasure Island", Howard Pyle's "Book of Pirates," or even "The Hardy Boys' Applegate Mystery." The Panama Hoard is a good example of a buried Spanish treasure hoard and we are indebted to Torrey McLean for what information we actually have about it.

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## **OCTOBER 3, 2020 INTERVIEW WITH ERIK GOLDSTEIN, SR. CURATOR OF MECHANICAL ARTS & NUMISMATICS, THE COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FOUNDATION**

(Jeff Burke)

### **Introduction**

I am grateful to Erick Goldstein, Senior Curator of Mechanical Arts and Numismatics at The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, for his thoughtful responses to my questions about numismatic holdings at Colonial Williamsburg and his advice for nascent numismatic writers. I conducted a Q & A interview with Erik through an exchange of e-mails in September and October 2020.

My wife Beth and I have fond memories of our trip to Colonial Williamsburg when my son Tristan was eleven and my daughter Amelia was seven, in June 2007. We loved exploring the historical buildings and learning from demonstrations of colonial customs and crafts. Amelia had the honor of carrying the lantern during our Tavern Ghost Walk on a spooky evening! On my next visit I will make a point of seeing the numismatic treasures there.

### **Questions**

- 1. I read in an *Antiques and The Arts Weekly* article that you started collecting coins before the age of five. What sparked your interest to start collecting at such a young age?**

*That's true. In 1971, my grandmother gave me a shiny Kennedy half, and followed up with a matching Ike dollar. I remember being impressed with the size and heft of the coins, which were much more substantial than the pennies and nickels I'd gotten for my allowance. I was hooked and immediately progressed to bugging relatives about their old coins or loose change they might let me look through. Grandpa Milton had preserved a VF 1838 Large cent since childhood, and his ancient "big penny" kept me spellbound. My love of old copper goes directly back to that coin, and I still have it.*

*My mother's father, Grandpa Charlie, was a semi-serious collector who filled blue Whitman folders and penny boards from circulation. Nothing was more awe-inspiring than his weighty album of Morgan and Peace dollars, which he gave me along with the rest of his collection of U.S. type coins when I was bar-mitzvah'd in 1979.*

**2. You teach an ANA Summer Seminar course on colonial numismatics. What have been some highlights of your teaching experiences in this program?**

*I couldn't possibly say, and I don't mean to sound like I'm coping out. It's just that the whole darned week at "coin camp" is one long highlight and something I greatly look forward to every year. If I had to say something in attempt to recruit a potential Summer Seminar attendee, the first point I'd make would be about direct access to the most knowledgeable and passionate specialists in our sphere. There's nothing better than spending days on end marinating in a numismatic stew wrought of the finest ingredients.*

*As an instructor the greatest rewards are the "A-HA!" moments, where you can actually see a point sinking into a mind. Right behind that are the impressive numbers of "repeat offenders" who faithfully take each of the classes we offer, often multiple times. I don't think I'm wrong in saying that John Kraljevich and I have helped introduce a few folks to the fun, rewarding, and diverse fields of colonial-era numismatic Americana.*

Goldstein (right) with fellow instructor and C4 member, John Kraljevich.



**3. What are some exciting events or exhibits The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation has planned for the future?**

*Since the completion of our Museum expansion, our Collections, Conservation, and Exhibits staff have been scrambling to fill the new galleries, all while dealing with complications caused by the pandemic. We're crazy-busy writing exhibits, slated to open over the next few years, covering things like fine and folk art, furniture, ceramics, archaeological artifacts, architectural materials, silver, etc.*

*Currently, I'm working on a pair of exhibits showcasing tools in early America: one on everyday woodworking implements and the other on metalworking tools as used by Revolutionary War period blacksmiths, tinsmiths, and gunsmiths.*

*Members of C4 will be most excited about the inaugural exhibit we're planning for the **Ruth P. and Joseph R. Lasser Gallery**, as it's formally called. Once open, it'll be the ONLY permanent numismatics gallery with a focus on early American material anywhere in the world!*

*While it's not slated to open until 2022 (delays courtesy of Covid-19,) we've got a little taste of the wonders-to-come already in place: the Jacob Giles Morris album of colonial and Continental currency. Morris, whose c.1830 portrait hangs above the collection, was lost at sea in 1853, and this album is known as the earliest intact collection of American paper money.*



Views in the **Ruth P. and Joseph R. Lasser Gallery**. Photos by Erik Goldstein, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Featured in these shots are the:

- Portrait of **Jacob Giles Morris**, Philadelphia, c.1830 (2017-246, A&B.) The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Gift of Ellen Rumford Barrett.
- **Jacob Giles Morris Collection of Colonial and Continental Currency** (2004-68,1.) The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Gift of Beatrix T. Rumford.

#### 4. What is your current collecting focus?

*With such a diverse and in-depth collection of colonial-era coins, medals, tokens, paper money, fiscal documents and exonumia, our collecting focus doesn't change with the times. It's pretty much constant and focused on those areas.*

*Let's face it – Joe Lasser was one of the sharpest collectors of the above-mentioned material in our time, and his collection at Colonial Williamsburg is unparalleled. We've pretty much got the basics, as we colonial specialists know them, very well covered. So we're looking to fill gaps in the collection with items that really tell great stories for the everyday museum-goer and hardcore numismatist alike.*

*Now, if you're asking me what's on our shopping list, I can't answer with specifics. Most of our recent additions fall into the weird, peripheral, and/or extremely rare categories. In some cases I didn't know if the acquired example would ever become available, or even existed until it showed up. But I knew it needed to be in the collection as soon as I saw it. Make sense?*

**4. You are a distinguished author of numerous books and articles. What advice would you offer to young numismatists or adults who are reticent about writing their first article for publication?**

*My advice would be to jump right in with open eyes and a clear sense of purpose. If a subject is intriguing enough to make one contemplate writing an article, then there's a good chance it'll be of interest to other numismatists.*

*Here are a few more tips for success and continual improvement, in no particular order;*

- *Look to the admired work of others to see what can be learned and applied.*
- *Find a worthy mentor, ask them smart questions, and listen to their advice.*
- *Do you have a nagging question, unanswered by the writings of others? Then do the research and publish what you discover.*
- *Don't assume previous authors are right about everything.*
- *Be sure you've got something valuable to offer, even if it's not new information or ground-breaking research.*
- *Stick to the facts and back your salient points up with credible evidence. There's already too much numismatic poppycock wafting around out there.*
- *If you must speculate, say so in unequivocal terms and justify why.*
- *Write in your own voice; don't try to be Eric Newman or John Kraljevich.*
- *Let your passion for the subject shine, so that it may "infect" others.*
- *Don't fear being proven wrong; own it and be grateful for what you've learned.*
- *Never stop asking questions and striving to up your game.*
- *ALWAYS keep your mind open. The most valid and cutting critique I've ever heard leveled at an established author was that he had "forgotten nothing and learned nothing" over the decades. DON'T be that guy.*

**What are your favorite colonial coins and paper money specimens in the Colonial Williamsburg collection?**

*I'd like to tell you they're all my babies and I love 'em equally, but that'd be hogwash. For sure NONE of our six c.1783 "Continental Dollar" medals are on my list of favorites, though they're all pretty cool in their own right.*

*Off the top of my head, here are a few that I really, really like;*



1773 Virginia halfpenny found by archaeologists in the cellar of Williamsburg's Governor's Palace, which burnt down in December of 1781. Archaeological Collections (#0910-20AA,) The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.



1662 Massachusetts "Oak Tree" twopence. This little coin is just plain sexy! The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (2002-77,15.) Gift of the Lasser family.



"Double plugged" 1677 Potosi four reales from the 1711 wreck of *HMS Feversham*. Can you spot the shy second plug? The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (1996-872,50.) Gift of the Lasser family.



(Left) The “Montreal” medal of Songose, a Mohican warrior, presented to him by Sir William Johnson in about 1761. The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Museum Purchase (2015-146,) Lasser Numismatics Fund.

(Right) New York currency, one shilling, 22 July 1724 issue. This striking example has been the “Newman plate bill” for ages. The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (1994-210,537.) Gift of the Lasser family. Shown reduced.

**5. If you could go back in time and give one piece of advice to yourself when you were just starting out as a collector, what would it be?**

*Considering my age at the time, I'd tell myself to wipe my nose. Kiddie snot is gross and not especially beneficial for coin surfaces. Seriously, I'd tell impatient young Erik to keep the numismatic lust in check, and that he'd eventually be able to acquire many of the ancient, colonial, and U.S. type coins he only dreams of. I'd also tell him to keep*

*this in mind for his teenage years; you don't need to stop collecting coins to chase girls and work on your '79 Camaro. You can do all three at once.*



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## **BOOK REVIEW: THE HISTORY AND COINAGE OF MACHIN'S MILLS**

(Lou Jordan)

*The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills* by Jack Howes, James Rosen, and Gary Trudgen, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2020.

This indispensable handbook is essential for anyone with an interest in imitation and counterfeit British halfpence or the counterfeit confederation era coppers associated with the Machin's Mills mint. It is the only monograph to synthesize current research related to the mint, presenting both a concise history of people associated with the mint as well as the operation of the enterprise along with the first complete and thorough catalog of all coppers associated with Machin's Mills. Without this volume, a collector of any of the series of confederation or imitation coppers is at a distinct disadvantage.

The Machin's Mills enterprise has been the object of study for well over a century. Unfortunately, very few documents related to the mint have survived. So, by in large, most studies have tried to reinterpret the sparse available evidence and then speculate on which coppers may have been associated with the mint leaving much open to debate.

However, there have been some significant studies over the years that have helped clarify issues and focus further research. Crosby, Betts, Newman, and Vlack, led the way, but their research only presented a portion of a larger picture. Over the past four decades Gary Trudgen has tried to fill in this story with his meticulously researched biographies of the individuals associated with the Machin's Mills operation. This research has brought to light significant facts regarding the background of the principal players and their interrelationships. Most importantly Gary uncovered a precursor to the Machin's operation in his landmark article “Samuel Atlee’s New York City Brewery and Mint” (*Journal of Early American Numismatics*, vol. 1, Dec. 2018.) His focused research has helped clarify who participated in the minting enterprise and the expertise each partner contributed to the production of the coppers. This information has helped more accurately assign specific varieties of copper coins to particular mints and when combined with die linkage data has allowed him to propose a general chronology and emission sequence for these coppers. His two co-authors are past presidents of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club. Jack Howes has authored several articles on Machin's Mills and also published a detailed die study showing what were thought to be two different die varieties was in fact two states of one variety. James Rosen has written on the distribution of Connecticut coppers and has acquired an intimate knowledge of the Machin's varieties from decades of collecting and studying high-end specimens of these coppers. The breath of research presented here by these three specialists is remarkable.

Chapter one is a summary biography of Thomas Machin relying on the latest scholarship, a useful corrective to earlier less accurate discussions. Chapter two presents a useful summary of each of the coinage proposals put forward during the Confederation era for either a national or state coinage along with a brief discussion of the private New York City mints of Samuel Atlee and John Bailey. Chapter three discusses each of the individuals associated with the Machin's Mills indenture along with a detailed summary of the articles in the agreement (and a transcription of the

related indentures in an appendix,) while chapter four is an illuminating commentary on the description provided by Thomas Machin, Jr. many years later about the mint his father had operated when Thomas, Jr. was a toddler. Chapter five is an excellent summary of previous numismatic research on the topic, by Bushnell, Crosby, Betts, Newman, Vlack, and Trudgen. Also included is a very useful chart listing each Machin's Mills variety with the name of the discoverer and the year the variety was identified, followed by a second chart that provides both rarity estimates and grading ranges for condition census specimens, the grades are shortened to just the numbers without the grade abbreviations. This chapter is followed by a concise and well-reasoned discussion of the role of James Atlee as an engraver at the mint, a point that has been somewhat controversial in the recent past. The text concludes with a useful note on the "sawtooth" denticles found on the rim of many of these coppers and a second short note on a rarity scale.

Chapter eight, the extensive catalog, is divided into seven sections and takes up over 60% of the book. Section one catalogs counterfeit and imitation British halfpence that are currently attributed to either Samuel Atlee's or John Bailey's mints, both in New York City or attributed to the Machin's Mills operation in Newburgh, NY. Sections two through five address Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Vermont coppers associated with the mints of Samuel Atlee and Thomas Machin. Next is a section on the pattern coppers associated with James Atlee and finally there is a discussion of four imitation coppers previously listed by Vlack in 1974 as struck in America but that are now considered to be of uncertain origin, although two are tentatively attributed to North Swansea, Massachusetts.

This catalog is the perfect complement to the text. While the text focuses on the history of the participants and the work at the mint, the catalog uses this information to systematically analyze each copper. Each variety is illustrated with a sharp, color image of a high-grade specimen. Assembling such a complete collection of images of high-quality specimens is in itself a major accomplishment. The description and diagnostics of the obverse and reverse of each variety are quite extensive, which will be greatly appreciated by those using this information to make attributions due to the intentionally poor striking and worn surfaces of many specimens. A current rarity estimate and the condition census grade parameters are also included. Additionally, a summary of diagnostics to distinguish early and late die states is provided when the information is available. However, what is especially useful are the attributions to a diemake, a mint and an estimate for the year the copper was minted. This clearly delineates the authors attribution of each variety into those assigned to either Samuel Atlee's Brewery mint, or to John Bailey's mint from those attributed to Machin's Mills and suggests the chronological order of production.

The commentary on each variety is also particularly useful. In the past, the attribution of an imitation halfpenny variety to James Atlee at Machin's Mills was often based on the presence of a broken A letter punch used in sinking the coin legend into the die. Research by Mike Hodder explained there may have been several broken A letter punches, thus the appearance of a broken A did not necessarily prove all dies displaying a broken A were produced by a single diemake. The authors are very sensitive to this point and have developed a number of diagnostic features related to the letters, date, style of the central figures and border design as well as the overall fabric of the coin, explaining that when a number of these elements are found in combination on a coin it strongly suggests the work of a specific diemake. This information is fully discussed and repeated for each pertinent entry so that any description can be read independently allowing the reader the opportunity of understanding the rationale for the assignment to a specific diemake or mint, without needing to flip through the entire book for supplemental clarification. In addition to this stylistic and punch link analysis there is a very thorough listing of die marriages for both the

obverse and the reverse die of each variety, often with a proposed emission sequence for these pairings. The die paring analysis is remarkably thorough and clearly demonstrates the interconnections of these coppers.

Similarly detailed descriptions are included for the Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Vermont varieties attributed to Machin's Mills. Indeed, I believe this is the first time all the information on these coppers has been presented in one publication. The final two sections on the James Atlee patterns and the few coppers of uncertain origins are provided with correspondingly detailed descriptions and analysis. There is much to be learned from reading through this catalog.

Between the covers of this book, one will discover the roles of Samuel and James Atlee, Walter Mould, John Bailey, and Thomas Machin and his partners in the minting of the various imitation British halfpence and related counterfeit Confederation era coppers that have been attributed to Machin's Mills. Similarly, the stylistic analysis and punch link evidence of the individual copper varieties and their interrelationships traced through die marriages serve as a solid basis for the author's attributions of the coppers to specific mints and their suggested emission sequence. This important work presents a clear scholarly analysis of the known facts and a thoroughly reasoned discussion for each attribution that will certainly be the foundation for any further research on the topic.



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## CHANGE OF DIRECTION

(Al Boka)

Many of you identify me with the Large Cents of 1794. True, 1794 varieties were my passion for about 15 years but, like so many good things, they too came to the end of their “useful” life for me. I had achieved what I set out to do; gather all of the 58 collectible varieties in the best condition possible. There was little hope for improvement unless I won a lottery or something similar. Thus, in 2016, I sold the collection thru Heritage Auctions. I managed to regain a few of my absolute favorites: Sheldon-20 (lot No. 1 in the 1914 Gilbert sale,) Sheldon-18b (2<sup>nd</sup> finest known,) Sheldon-66 (finest known ”split pole” variety) and J. R. Frankenfield’s Sheldon-56 (de-accessioned by ANS after having been removed from JR’s sale in 2001, much to his consternation.) I was left with a hollow, empty feeling.

I am blessed to have what most of you also have; the “collecting gene” woven inextricably within my DNA strands. As you know, this condition needs feeding; collecting things, whether they be coins, baseball cards, stamps, matchbook covers, etc. In my case it is coins that have been most compelling since the age of 9 or 10. I also feel the need for “completeness” in whatever I undertake.

As a Garden State native, long-time removed, my root values and New Jersey accent are impossible to erase. I did the usual thing that kids with the collecting gene did in Trenton in those times; filling Whitman Lincoln Cent boards. I never managed to get the S-VDB, 14-D or 22 plain, as they were beyond my meager reach at the time. I did get all of the others.

I Joined Early American Coppers in 1972 because of a budding attraction to Large Cents in which I had developed an interest. I then worked many years on a “date set” which, once completed, in 2011, was sold at auction. This freed me to concentrate on my growing obsession with the year 1794 and its exquisite Liberty Cap design. I was also drawn to the vast amount of recorded history surrounding the collectors from the past.

As I mentioned, abandoning my 1794s left a void for which my collecting gene needed filling. So, where to go next? Hint: 144/101/90/40+.

Even in my early days of collecting I was fascinated by the so-called “Horse Heads” produced for the “Garden State” during the years 1786 –1788. I acquired my first Jersey from a 2014 Heritage auction of Eric Newman coins. It was an AU58, Maris 62-q. It sat alone, amongst a few other assorted “colonials,” as my sole example of a New Jersey copper. It was to form the basis for the new direction to my collecting.

As shown in *New Jersey State Coppers – History • Descriptions • Collections* (2013) by Roger S. Siboni, John L. Howes and A. Buell Ish (SHI,) there are 144 distinct varieties of New Jersey coppers. Of these, there are many which collectors of 1794 large cents would consider to be N/C (non-collectibles,) as recognized by Dr. Sheldon’s rarity designations. There is no such concession offered to Nova Caesarea collectors.

Of all Jersey varieties, 43 are rated R7 or higher; thus there are 101 rated R7- or less. There are 90 rated R6 or lower. It becomes readily apparent that even reaching 90 varieties would be a challenge beyond the reach of mere mortals. This does not mean it cannot be done as it has been achieved by some. It simply means that there need be other options by which to collect this most interesting of pre-federal coinage.

In SHI there are several collecting suggestions including one horse facing right and one facing left (2,) one of each year (3,) a Basic Type set (12) and an Advanced Type set (24.) I have designed my own list which I call the Expanded Type Set with no strict parameters. Currently I have 32 and my goal is to reach 40 or thereabouts. My only criterion is that all be easy on the eyes...the easier the better.

I feel that the most appealing aspects of Jersey coppers lie with the horse head variances and the strikingly different mane treatments. As the dies were hand-crafted, by several different engravers; no two are alike. In fact, they display far greater diversity of designs than do the 1794 cents. I especially like the differences with the horse's manes and the associated nicknames that go with them.

My two most recent acquisitions were from the Donald G. Partrick sale of March 17, 2021. There, I captured one of the finest examples of Maris 11-H (no coulter - R6) and a Maris-66-v (Braided Mane - R5+) varieties (see below.)

The M 11-H was part of the Dr. Maris collection sale by H. P. Smith (Stan V. Henkels & Co.,) 6/21/1886, lot 363) while the M 66-v traces to F. W. Doughty collection auctioned by Thomas L. Elder, 4/9/1909, lot 645, and was part of the ANS 1914 Exhibition in New York City, appearing on plate 9 of that catalog.

I have been fortunate to have had as mentors, two longtime friends and Jersey aficionados, Darwin Palmer and Gordon Wrubel. These gentlemen have helped whenever I needed assistance/advice.

In conclusion, if you are interested in a new, fascinating and challenging adventure, saddle up, mount a New Jersey draft horse and hit the trail.



Top: Maris 11-H, Bottom: Maris 66-v.  
Author's collection.



## TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE AND A TALE OF TWO TAILS!!

(Roger A Moore MD)

### Introduction

One of the joys of collecting colonial coins is the many minting oddities and errors that can be found.<sup>1</sup> Of particular interest is one of the rarest errors - coins minted with two obverse or two reverse dies. When these rare minting errors are encountered, the presumption has been that the minter grabbed two same sided dies by accident or intoxication, resulting in a fascinating minting anomaly. Another explanation for the double-sided creations is that they were intentionally made. Randy Clark has posited that after receiving a new minting press or fixing an old one, the counterfeiters would run off a few trial pieces using any dies readily available before putting the press fully into action. For the trial, any two random dies could be used and so be it if they were both obverses or reverses.<sup>2</sup> In a similar manner two newly acquired obverse or reverse dies might be “tested” together to see how well the dies functioned. Though any of these interpretations may have validity, I prefer to believe that these coins were intentionally made by the minters for a friend who could then proceed to the local tavern, where he had the edge when flipping a coin for a free drink!! A related rarity is a coin made from the same die on both sides. The origin of these coins will be explored. No matter how they came into being, these coins are rare. Though this paper will explore some of the two obverse or reverse coins occurring in the British counterfeit halfpence series, examples of this oddity within the Colonial State coinage series will also be discussed. Finally, a more common minting error – a brockage – which might be mistaken for a double obverse or reverse coin will be touched on. Brockages can be easily distinguished from true double headed or double tailed coins since the reverse design is a mirror image of the obverse.

One caveat is that when considering buying a two obverse or reverse coin, one must determine whether it is a true mint product or a fabrication made intentionally to deceive the buyer. Electrotypes, casts, and two coins glued together all exist to simulate a true double same-sided minted coin. All the usual methods for making this determination should be used before buying a double headed or tailed coin, with special attention paid to the coin’s edge.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Moore & Mossman, “Die Clashing, Die Caps, and Brockages,” *The Colonial Newsletter - A Research Journal in Early American Numismatics*; Consecutive Issue # 130, Vol. 46, No. 1; April 2006, pp. 2983-2993.

<sup>2</sup> Randy Clark private communication with author 9-26-20 – Presently, when a new instrument is obtained and before finalizing the purchase a preliminary set-up is undertaken to evaluate its proper performance. Randy thinks something similar could have been done when a new minting press was acquired or a broken one fixed. For the “test” two random dies could have been used including two obverse or two reverse dies. Arguing against this happening he also pointed out that there is some thought that hammer and anvil dies in some minting operations were made on differently shaped dies (round or square) making use of two obverse or reverse dies unlikely.

<sup>3</sup> Moore, R A, *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*; The Colonial Coin Collectors Club publication, 2019. The chapter on “Counterfeits, Forgeries, Facsimiles and Fantasies” provides a good foundation for the evaluation of a coin to determine whether it might be a fake.

## Two-Headed Coins

COUNTERFEIT HALFPENCE - An example of a two-headed counterfeit halfpence obtained in the sale of the Eric P. Newman collection is shown in Figure 1.<sup>4</sup> A coin made from two obverse dies usually would be expected to have been made using two different dies, as is the case for the halfpence shown in Figure 1. A key piece of research data that might be gained from the study of the obverse and reverse is whether they were both engraved by the same engraver or did they wander into the counterfeiting operation independent of the engraver. This question could be resolved if both obverses fit into the same Family of counterfeits and adds extra evidence for the Family in which to place a coin whose Family is otherwise questionable.<sup>5</sup>



Figure 1 – A two headed counterfeit halfpenny with the (A) side having a Coin Y Family obverse and the (B) side showing an obverse in a counterfeit Family that has not yet been identified. The edge (C) is normal for a counterfeit halfpenny. (wt. 133.2 grs, dia. 28.4 mm)

In the case of the counterfeit halfpenny in Figure 1 the side labeled (A) is a known Coin Y Family member and labeled by Jack Howes as obverse 77. This obverse is normally paired with a Coin Y reverse called 74ZI.<sup>6</sup> An example of this Coin Y halfpenny is shown in Figure 2, below.

The name of the Coin Y Family is derived from one of the 5 counterfeit halfpence that Peck imaged in his classic book categorizing the copper coins at the British Numismatic Museum.<sup>7</sup> The Coin Y Family was expanded from the single coin pictured by Peck based on similar attributes of other coins, such as design style, and the same legend and/or device punches, as well as the sharing of obverse and reverse dies.

<sup>4</sup> Heritage Auction of Eric P. Newman Collection, Part XI, Volume 1, 11-7-18, lot 15526.

<sup>5</sup> Moore et al, *Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny & Farthing Families*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club publication, 2018.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, p. 120 – the reverse is dated 1774, which is also paired with another obverse tentatively identified as a member of a Family called the Mousey Face Family.

<sup>7</sup> Peck C W, *English Copper, Tin and Bronze Coins in the British Museum 1558-1958*; Second Edition, The Trustees of the British Museum, London, 1970, p. 233 and plate 50.



Figure 2 – A Coin Y (variety 77-74ZI) halfpenny that shares the same obverse as found on the (A) side of the double obverse coin in Figure 1. (wt. 130.4 grs, dia. 27.9 mm)

The “B” side of the double headed coin shown in Figure 1 was more problematic in identifying a counterfeit Family association. The author’s review of thousands of coins held by members of the British-Irish coppers Yahoo group did not produce an exact match.<sup>8</sup> There is a similar obverse identified in the author’s collection that also has a very similar Coin Y reverse as the Coin Y in Figure 2 (see Figure 3 for a comparison.) This similar obverse has been tentatively identified as a Mousey Face Family member. The Mousey Face Family has yet to be completely researched and may well include the “B” obverse in Figure 1. It should be mentioned that the Mousey Face Family is known to have close ties to both the Coin Y and the Topless Ordinal Families of counterfeit halfpence. Therefore, it would not be surprising that we might find the dies of both Coin Y, and Mousey Face Families available to minters in the same counterfeiting operation.



Figure 3 – The (A) obverse is a probably a member of the Mousey Face Family muled with the (B) reverse made from the same or very similar die used for the reverse of the Coin Y in Figure 2. (wt. 126.1 grs, dia. 27.7 mm)

<sup>8</sup> [british-irishcoppers@yahoogroups.com](mailto:british-irishcoppers@yahoogroups.com) – a group of people sharing images and knowledge about the counterfeit British and Irish halfpence and farthings.

STATE COINAGE DOUBLE OBVERSES - In addition to the double headed counterfeit halfpence, there are a number of these oddities known in State copper coinages. For instance in Figure 4 an example of a two headed Connecticut State halfpenny was auctioned in the Bowers and Ruddy Gallery sale of the William Sieck's Collection.<sup>9</sup>



Figure 4 – Connecticut halfpenny made from the same obverse of a Miller variety 33.7 die.  
(Courtesy of Bowers and Ruddy Galleries)

Previously the author stated that to make a two headed coin the minter would require two different obverse dies. It would seem that this coin would be proof that this is not necessary and in actuality there are other mechanisms allowing the production of a two headed coin using the same die. The lot description of the Connecticut shown in Figure 4 states:<sup>10</sup>

*The obverse die, not in combination with the reverse, was used to impress a blank planchet. The result was a Connecticut piece with one side blank and the other side depicting an obverse. The piece was then put on a leather pad, a block of wood, or something to partially cushion it, the blank side placed upward, and then it was impressed again with the obverse die. This procedure flattened the “reverse.”*

Based on this description the minter went to a great deal of difficulty to intentionally produce the resultant double obverse coin. Alternatively, Jeff Rock sold a double headed obverse 9 Miller variety Connecticut in 1994 and offered the following explanation concerning how it was made:<sup>11</sup>

*There are two distinct ways that this coin could have been manufactured. One is that it was an intentional product made by the coiners – an amusement that they were known to have partaken of. The other possibility is that it was unintentionally struck in the following manner: an*

<sup>9</sup> Bowers and Ruddy Galleries Sale of the Sieck collection at the ANA Convention, 7-28-81, lot 369.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid

<sup>11</sup> Jeff Rock Fixed Price List # 9, Summer1994, lot 129.

*obverse die brockage was struck and instead of ejecting from the press, somehow it adhered to the reverse die, brockage side up. A blank planchet was then fed into the press and was struck receiving a normal impression from the obverse die, but also struck by the brockage piece instead of the reverse die, the brockage having acted as a die itself and imparting a normal obverse. The fact that one side is significantly weaker than the other suggests that this might actually have happened as one would expect the brockage “die” to have imparted much less detail than the actual steel obverse die in the press. This theory is also helped by the existence of an obverse brockage that was part of the Norweb collection (author note: Bowers and Merena Auction 3-25-88) [lot 2508], which shows that there was the possibility of such an event happening.*

The explanation provided by Jeff seems reasonable and certainly explains the weaker details on one of the two obverses in Figure 4. However, the complex sequence of events dependent upon each occurring as outlined certainly explains the reason for the rarity of this minting error with only three Connecticut halfpence with two reverses presently known. For completeness sake there is one New Jersey State variety which was produced using a 36 die for striking both sides<sup>12</sup> and four Vermont double obverse coins with three of them having the same die used on both sides.<sup>13</sup>

DOUBLE OBVERSE WHICH IS A CROSS BETWEEN A COUNTERFEIT HALFPENNY AND CONNECTICUT STATE COPPER – Moving into an area of extreme weirdness is a double headed coin that appeared in a Stack’s and Bowers Auction in 2014 (Figure 5.)<sup>14</sup> It was opined that this may represent a “bettor’s coin” with a counterfeit halfpenny and a Connecticut copper having been “expertly glued or soldered” together. The coin is an obvious fabrication as shown when viewing the edge which clearly shows the thickness and the different coloration for each of the two coins used in its manufacture. The heavy weight of the coin at 222.3 grains is also a give-away as to the actual nature of the coin.

<sup>12</sup> Siboni R, Ish B& Howes J, *New Jersey State Coppers*, The American Numismatic Society, New York, 2013, p.99.

<sup>13</sup> Ish B, “Double ‘d’ – My Favorite New Jersey Copper,” *Colonial Coin Collectors Club Newsletter*, Vol. 6 No. 3, Fall 1998, p. 22; also Bressett K, *Vermont Copper Coinage*; ed. Newman & Doty, *Studies on Money in Early America*, The American Numismatic Society, 1978, pp. 178-179.

<sup>14</sup> Stack’s and Bowers Auction 10-31-14, lot 6140.



Figure 5 – Double obverse halfpenny with one obverse being a Boyish George Counterfeit Family member (BG 1773 TT 37) and the other a Connecticut State copper (Miller 33.2.) (wt. 222.3 grs, dia. 27.8 mm)

The counterfeit copper side of the coin is the obverse 37 in the Boyish George Family's 1773 Tall-Thin Ordinal sub-group. Within that group it is paired with two different reverses (A and N) which are both dated 1773. The Connecticut side of the copper is a Miller 33.2 which is paired with a number of 1787 dated reverses. The author finds it very odd that the maker of this fake would choose such different halfpenny varieties to meld unless they literally represented the last penny he had to his name.

OBVERSE BROCKAGE – There should be no problem in deciding whether a coin with two heads is a true double headed coin or a brockage. Figure 6 shows a typical brockage of a counterfeit halfpenny from the Spiked Chin Family of counterfeit halfpence. One can see that the primary side has a normal orientation for the legends while the other is a mirror image with the devices and legends reversed. So unless there was some complex sequence of events which reversed the orientation of the brockage as described above, telling a brockage from a die struck two headed coin is easy.



Figure 6 – Obverse brockage of a counterfeit copper from the Spiked Chin Family.  
(wt. 99.3 grs, dia. 27.1 mm)

## Two-Tailed Coins

COUNTERFEIT HALFPENCE - One nice aspect of studying coins minted with two reverse dies is they often both reveal their dates, and if different from each other, add another layer of interest if different. Another fascinating factor associated with both double headed and double tailed coins is they have the potential for relating different groups of coins to the same engraver or at least a single counterfeiting site. One does need to be careful if assuming that both dies were related to the same engraver, since dies made in one counterfeiting operation might well have found their way into another counterfeiting operation for many reasons. A neat example of a two tailed counterfeit coin is shown in Figure 7 which was obtained in a Dix Noonan Webb Auction in 2020.<sup>15</sup> It is obvious that both reverses were made from different dies since each has a different date, one being 1770 and the other 1771. Having said that the two reverses have a very similar look and style so that it is very likely there were made by the same engraver. In addition it is evident that they were both at the same counterfeit minting operation at the same time when they were used together to make this coin. The look of Britannia is very unusual from most other 1770 or 1771 counterfeit halfpence with a large matronly head tilted in an up-ward looking position. The only Family of 1770 and 1771 counterfeit halfpence with this look is one that is yet unpublished, called the Spiked Ribbon Family, which John Louis has studied. On comparing the obverse of the 1770 dated side of the two headed coin with all known 1770 Spiked Ribbon Family members, no exact match was found. The closest match this author could find for the 1770 reverse of the double reverse coin is shown in Figure 8.



Figure 7 – Counterfeit halfpenny made from two reverse dies – The (A) side is dated 1770 and the (B) side is dated 1771. The edge (C) is smoother than the typical die struck counterfeit halfpenny.  
(wt. 114.9 grs, dia.29 mm)

<sup>15</sup> Dix Noonan Webb Auction 7-8-20, lot 186.



Figure 8 – This coin is the only 1770 dated member of the Spiked Ribbon Family of counterfeit halfpence with a reverse having style and punch similarities to the reverse of the double tailed coin.  
(wt. 136.8 grs, dia. 28.9 mm)

One should note that the 1770 reverse of the double tailed coin is defective in the placement of the legend with the “B” of BRITANNIA hugging Britannia’s foot and the final letter “A” impinging on Britannia’s shield. If the counterfeiters were picky, they may have rejected this 1770 reverse due to the legend defect, which may be the reason a match has not been found for this counterfeit reverse. Of course if they did use this die to produce counterfeits, it may just be that few survived and one has not yet turned up. Regarding the 1771 reverse on the two tailed coin a match was made with a known member of the Spiked Ribbon Family as shown in Figure 9. Also note the similarity of the obverse to that of the 1770 related coin shown in Figure 8.



Figure 9 – Obverse and reverse of a 1771 Spiked Ribbon Family member with a reverse made from the same die as the 1771 reverse in the two headed coin. (Courtesy of the Mike Ringo Collection on a Colonial Coin Collectors Club Library CD given to C4 by the Ringo estate)

STATE COINAGE DOUBLE REVERSES - Similar to the double obverse State coinages double reverse State coins also exist. Figure 10 shows an example of a Connecticut copper with two reverses made from two different dies and it is the only Connecticut with this error the author knows to exist. The Connecticut was sold in a 2013 Stack's & Bowers Auction and realized \$90,000.<sup>16</sup> The two dies used to make this coin were reverse Miller F.1 and reverse Miller G. The mint strikes of both sides were slightly off center with the Miller F.1 strike about 5% too low resulting in the loss of the lower half of the date. The G reverse was struck slightly too high, producing a decapitated Britannia. Both dies are dated 1788. In the lot description, the coin was investigated and no evidence that it was made fraudulently was evident. Some suspicion did initially exist based on the extraordinary rarity of this piece. It needs to be pointed out that no images of the coin not encased in a slab were available.



Figure 10 – Connecticut State copper made from two reverse dies in a slab. The (A) labeled reverse die was a Miller F.1 while the B) reverse die was a Miller G. (Courtesy of the Stack's Bowers Auction House)

Not to be outdone by Connecticut, New Jersey minters also are represented by a single known double reverse coin but in this instance, it is not made from two different dies. Rather both sides were minted with the Maris “d” reverse. This coin was bought by Buell Ish and was intensively studied by him in a *C4 Newsletter* article.<sup>17</sup> His own observations led him to believe that a double-sided coin from the same die could be produced with a variant of a known minting error called a flip-over double strike (FODS.) Based on his theory concerning how these errors might have occurred, he had the Gallery Mint (A coin minting facility producing reproductions of colonial coins and associated minting errors) physically mint a coin using his proposed sequence of events.

<sup>16</sup> Stack's & Bowers Americana Auction 1 22-13, lot 10703.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, Ish pp. 12-25.

The process they used confirmed Buell's theory as a possible mechanism to produce a two-sided coin with the same die. His theory was:

**FIRST STRIKE**

*Insert two planchet, strike once. This should yield two coins each nearly blank on one side. One will have a die reverse impression on one side, the other an obverse.*

**SECOND STRIKE**

*Same two planchets Obverse coin from first strike stays in obverse die, reverse coin from first strike flips over such that shield created in first strike is against blank side of other planchet (orientation important)*

Basically this is a similar mechanism as proposed by Jeff Rock enumerated earlier in this paper for the minting of a double obverse coin with the same die. There are other variations to this sequence that could produce the same result but the more steps added to any sequence, the more improbable it becomes that it was the actual method. "Keep it simple, stupid" would apply!! The double reverse New Jersey using the "d" reverse die is shown in Figure 11.



Figure 11 – New Jersey copper with both sides having been struck with the Maris "d" reverse die.  
(Courtesy of the Buell Ish reference collection)

**CAST TWO TAILED COIN** – The mechanisms that might produce a die struck double headed or tailed coin using the same die on both sides have been discussed. In the case of cast counterfeit coins, the process is not as complex and much easier to understand. Figure 12 shows a cast counterfeit with "seemingly" the same reverse on both sides. The word "seemingly" is used simply because the cast was so poorly made and the details on both sides of the cast are obscured enough that any assurance that they are the same cannot be stated without qualification. How such a two tailed concoction was made is pretty straight-forward. Numerous papers discussing how casts are made have been printed recently.<sup>18</sup> Basically a

<sup>18</sup>Moore et al, "Evaluation of Lead/Pewter Cast Counterfeit Coins Found in Philadelphia During the Construction of Route I-95," *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, to be published in Vol. 3 No. 2, December 2020; also see Moore et al, "Evaluation of William III Cast Copper Counterfeit Halfpence Found During Construction of Route I-95 through Pennsylvania," *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, to be published in Vol 3, No 2 December 2020.

model or imprinter with the image the counterfeiter wants to reproduce is pushed into a mold made of sand or clay. The obverse is pressed into one mold and the reverse into another. The two molds are brought together and molten metal is poured into a small hole leading to the cavity where the obverse and reverse molds are placed against each other. One can easily imagine that after an onion bottle of wine from the local tavern, the counterfeiter might accidentally impress the reverse model into both his reverse and obverse molds, so that the resultant cast coin would have two reverses. Such was most likely the case for the coin shown in Figure 12.



Figure 12 - Cast counterfeit with two reverses that were most likely imprinted into the molds with the same model, which might have been a Regal King George II halfpence. (wt. 121.9 grs, dia.27.7 mm)

OBVERSE BROCKAGE – In order to be compete Figure 13 shows a reverse brockage of a counterfeit halfpence Simian Family member. Obviously, the reversed mirror image on one side of the coin is the tell-tale element in determining that this is a brockage rather than a true two tailed coin.



Figure 13 – Reverse brockage of a counterfeit halfpenny Simian Family member. (wt. 86.3 grs, dia.26.8 mm)

## **Conclusion**

Encounters with coins having two properly oriented obverses or reverses are rare in the colonial coin series. The paucity of these coins, even among the prolific counterfeit British halfpence series, attest to their rarity. This is in opposition to coins with two heads or reverses where each side is the mirror image of the other. These are brockages and occur in the counterfeit halfpence and farthing series on a fairly regular basis, though the word “commonly” would be an exaggeration. Interestingly the double headed and tailed coins can also be found in the State coinage series, which were authorized and official coinages where quality control might be expected to be more stringent than in counterfeiting operations.

Double headed or tailed coins struck with dies can be divided into two major groupings – those minted with two different dies on each side and those minted with the same die on both sides. Both of these groups could have been produced intentionally by the minters or by accident due to errors in the minting sequence. In the first group with two different die obverses or reverses the intentional production of these coins might have been for making a “test piece” to evaluate the appearance of a newly engraved die. The making of a “test piece” could use any combination of dies and using two obverses or two reverses together would not be an issue. Alternatively, they could have been made intentionally by the minter just for frivolity’s sake or as a “betting coin” to be used at the local tavern. No matter what the reason, producing one of these coins would be a simple matter of placing two of the same die types into both the anvil and hammer positions and letting the minting press do its job.

The minting of a two headed or two tailed coin from the same die is more problematic. Once again the production of the coin could have been either intentional or accidental. One method for intentionally making such a coin is discussed in the body of this paper. However, it is of special interest that a double headed or tailed coin could also be the result of a complex series of minting errors. One possible series of mint errors needed to produce these double headed or double tailed coins from the same die has been successfully reproduced with modern minting equipment. The scenario for this minting sequence partly entails the same sequence for producing a flip-over-double –strike minting error but with the extra requirement that two planchets be fed into the mint press at the same time and both remain in the press after the first strike with one of them flipping over and the other sticking to the die before the second strike occurs. The possibility of having all of these mint errors occurring in sequence would be unusual and would certainly explain the rarity of these coins.

The other coins which can occur with two heads or tails are cast counterfeits. I would expect that these should be found commonly; but they seem to be rarer than their struck counterparts. Perhaps the reason is the counterfeit caster on realizing he has made a casting mistake would simply throw them back into the melting pot. In any case the manner how cast double headed or tailed coins could have occurred was when the caster was impressing the model into the molds. When the caster mistakenly used the same model to impress both sides of the mold, the result was cast coin that had the same impression on both sides. I am surprised we do not find the results of such errors more often. Since I now own a number of these the double head and tail coins, I am itching to see how many beers I can win at my local pub before they catch onto my ruse!! Heads or tails?

*The flowing appeared in the December 1993 issue (v. 1, no. 2) of the C4 Newsletter.*

# COINS AND COMMON LAW MARRIAGE

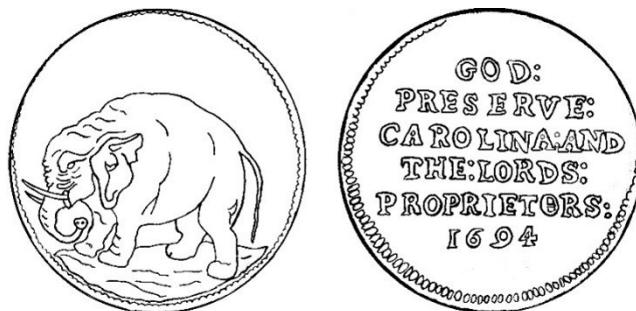
(Michael Hodder with Bill McKivor)

This notice comes to us from C4 member Bill McKivor of Seattle, Washington. Bill found it in Mary Beth Norton's essay, "Gender, Crime and Community in Seventeenth Century Maryland" published in *The Transformation of Early American History* (New York: Knopf, 1991), pp. 123-124:

*"Elezabeth Lockett, a maidservant charged with bastardy in Kent County, Maryland in April 1661, could not deny that she had borne a child out of wedlock. But she defended herself vigorously nonetheless, testifying that the child's father, a planter named Thomas Bright, 'promised her marriage before the child was gott.'"*

Elizabeth explained to the court that she and Bright had entered into a form of folk marriage by jointly breaking a piece of money. Her claims were supported by several witnesses, among them a male friend of Bright's, who revealed that Thomas had admitted "...there wase a peace of munye broke betwixt hime and Elesabeth Lockett." The court decided that Elizabeth had proved she had been given a false promise of marriage. Thomas Bright was ordered to provide for the child. Elizabeth was punished by whipping, the penalty for bastardy.

The court's decision speaks volumes about attitudes towards women and sexuality at the time. What kind of coin was broken? If Elizabeth and Thomas actually broke it apart, and didn't use shears, it must have been a fairly thin one. The timing's right for a Willow Tree or a Maryland Lord Baltimore silver coin. What happened to the coin after it was broken, who kept it? Did the bride and groom each keep their half? Do any other C4 members have other early American references to coin breaking as a symbol of common-law marriage?



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **C4 Membership Dues**

Annual dues are currently \$30.00 for Regular Membership (\$40 if residing outside the United States) and \$10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; \$15 if non-US resident.) They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or \$750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to: Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer; PO Box 25; Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

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### **C4 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medals**



A limited number of medals are still available. Individual copper medals can be purchased for \$13, and silver (one ounce, .999 silver) medals can be purchased for \$43, or a set containing one of each for \$48. These prices include postage.

If included along with an initial order, above, additional individual copper and silver medals are \$8 and \$35, respectively. Additional sets can be purchased for \$40 per set as long as they are included with an initial order, to save on postage.

Checks should be made payable to C4 and mailed to Charlie Rohrer, C4 treasurer, P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA, 17554.

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## **Newman Numismatic Portal Symposium Videos Available**

Videos from the recently conducted Newman Numismatic Portal (NNP) Symposium are now available on the Newman Numismatic Portal at <https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/multimediadetail/539070>. The NNP Symposium, held August 28-30, featured an online series of numismatic presentations over a three-day period. The event, which drew over a thousand registrants, included forty-one sessions and presented a wide array of content, including American, world, and ancient numismatics. This event was produced by Lianna Spurrier of Numismatic Marketing, under sponsorship of the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society.



Attendee input was enthusiastic, with one viewer noting “Drive time was very short, parking was free, food options were plentiful and reasonably priced, and overnight accommodations were like sleeping in my own bed.” Another commented “I just want to tell you what a fabulous event the Symposium was, as I’m sure you have heard a hundred times. It was an oasis in the COVID-19 desert. It got the coin collecting juices flowing again for those of us hunkered down waiting for the next show.” Other comments received included “These last three days were the closest I’ve come to having a coin convention experience since before the coronavirus hit”

and “The NNP hit a homerun with its effort. The symposium was such a success that I hope the NNP makes this an annual event.”

Popular sessions included Greg Rohan, of Heritage Auctions, who discussed the impact of the COVID epidemic on the numismatic market. Charles Morgan presented on “Five Ways to Modernize the Rare Coin Market,” while Matthew Tavory and Isaiah Hagemen hosted a well-received discussion on detection of counterfeit slabs. Rounding out the most attended presentations, Robert Rodriguez spoke on the “The 1792 Morris ‘So-Called’ Silver Center Cent.”

The growth of online numismatics mirrors that of nearly every other industry, and the unique circumstances of the present epidemic make events such as Newman Numismatic Portal Symposium particularly appropriate in the present environment. “I was encouraged to see the numismatic community come together in this way,” noted Len Augsburger, Project Coordinator for the Newman Numismatic Portal. Andy Newman, Trustee of the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society, commented “There appears to have been an appetite for numismatic content presented in this format, so we are encouraged to continue facilitating such events and welcome suggestions for improvement.”

Comments regarding this or future events are welcome by email, at [NNPCurator@wustl.edu](mailto>NNPCurator@wustl.edu).

## **THE C4 NEWSLETTER IS ON THE NEWMAN NUMISMATIC PORTAL!**

Past issues of The C4 Newsletter, and a plethora of other important numismatic resources are now available online, through The Newman Numismatic Portal, at:

[www.archive.org/details/newmannumismatic](http://www.archive.org/details/newmannumismatic)

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### **RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER**

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org). There are two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at [njraywms@optonline.net](mailto:njraywms@optonline.net) or call.

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### **Important Vermont Ryder-3 Study**

Mark Vitunic and Jim Glickman are conducting a study of Vermont Ryder-3 specimens with planchet/striking peculiarities such as oblongness and partial doubling as described in Carlotto. This effort will hopefully lead to a C4NL article. We are asking C4 members to please email us photos + weight of ANY Ryder-3 specimen that you own or are aware of which is NOT currently listed in the HA/SB archives. Your anonymity guaranteed. Thank you!  
[mvitunic@gmail.com](mailto:mvitunic@gmail.com), [jamesglickman1@gmail.com](mailto:jamesglickman1@gmail.com).

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The American Numismatic Society lacks just 10 pieces of Continental Currency for a complete set. If you would like to donate to the study collection, please contact Curator of the Americas, Jesse Kraft, at [jkraft@numismatics.org](mailto:jkraft@numismatics.org). The missing notes are as follows:

February 26, 1777, \$2, Friedberg.55 — May 20, 1777 \$4 Friedberg.65 — May 20, 1777, \$5, Friedberg.66 — May 20, 1777, \$7, Friedberg.68 — May 20, 1777, \$8, Friedberg.69 — April 11, 1778, \$6, Friedberg.73 — April 11, 1778, \$7, Friedberg.74 — April 11, 1778, \$8, Friedberg.75 — April 11, 1778, \$20, Friedberg.76 — April 11, 1778, \$40, Friedberg.78

**The Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) announces the latest in its series of publications – The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills by Jack Howes, James Rosen, and Gary Trudgen.**

**W**hen writing a book about coins that have been surrounded for generations by mystery and controversy regarding their sponsors, manufacturers, places and dates of origin, it became inherently obvious that we needed to describe these coins in detail and examine the lives and times of the personalities responsible for their creation during the closing years of the Confederation Period. Not only was it essential to clear up old ideas and to set the records straight, but it seemed necessary to expand our thinking about these coins which have weaved their way into our consciousness of pre-federal coppers.

So begins this new book on the coinage of Machin's Mills. The work, in octavo, is casebound and sewn with a photographic laminate cover, 286 pages and is profusely illustrated in color. It is available immediately for \$65 (plus shipping) from either Charles Davis, P.O. Box 1, Wenham, Mass 01984 or Kolbe & Fanning Numismatic Booksellers LLC., 141 W. Johnstown Rd. Gahanna, OH 43230.

**David Fanning on this new work:**

“The first book-length study of the intriguing series of coppers issued by various parties associated with Thomas Machin. Includes coverage not only of the series collected as Machin's Mills coppers, but also of those Vermont, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts coppers that are linked to this New York operation.”

**Charles Davis comments on a draft copy:**

“It is obvious that the book is well researched, the photos appear top notch, and the variety descriptions exhaustive--it is an impressive piece of work.”

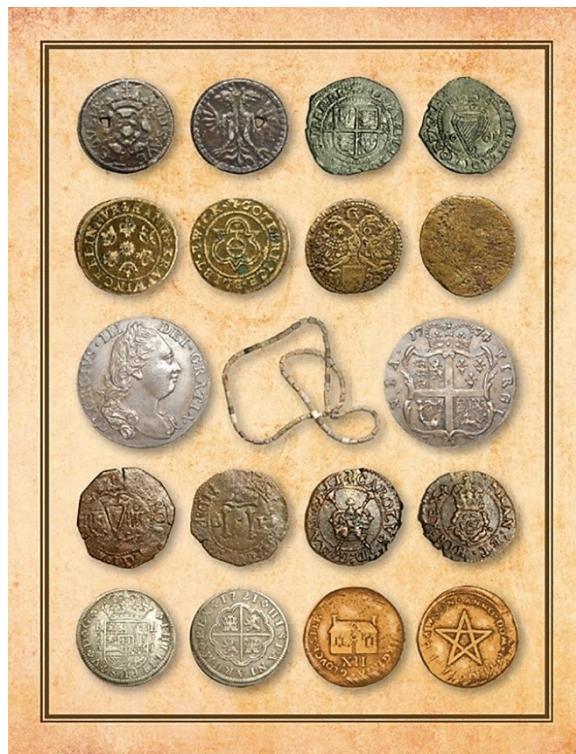
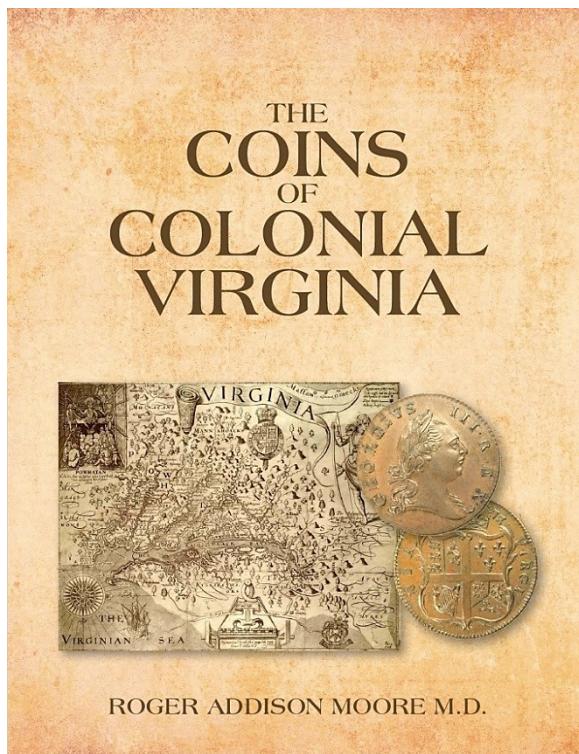
**THE HISTORY AND  
COINAGE OF  
MACHIN'S MILLS**



Jack Howes  
James Rosen  
Gary Trudgen

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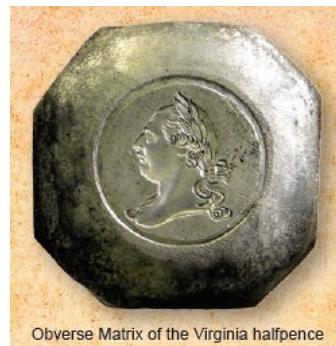
**C4 Proudly Announces a New Book  
By Roger A. Moore!**



The growth and development of Virginia into one of the most important North American colonies can be traced by the economic evolution of the Dominion State as it attempted to gain the necessary hard currency needed for commerce. The history surrounding the introduction of various coinages and the use of tobacco as a commodity currency over the 150 years leading up to the final authorization of the production of Virginia halfpence in 1773 is fascinating. Equally as absorbing are the twists, turns and dead ends encountered by the Virginia colonists as they sought authorization from the English Crown for their own coinage. It is ironic that the long-desired copper Virginia halfpence finally provided to Virginia under Warrant from King George III became available to the colonists only fifty days before the beginning of the American Revolution.

In addition to exploring the historic context in which colonial Virginia struggled to obtain hard currency, methods are provided for attributing and collecting the 30 known die varieties of the 1773 copper Virginia halfpence. The book also enumerates the specifics of the Virginia halfpence metrology, rarity, and grading, as well as their numerous forgeries, facsimiles, fantasies and oddities. Virginia halfpence can be appreciated and collected in nearly uncirculated condition and are important additions to any collection of American colonial coins.

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Obverse Matrix of the Virginia halfpence

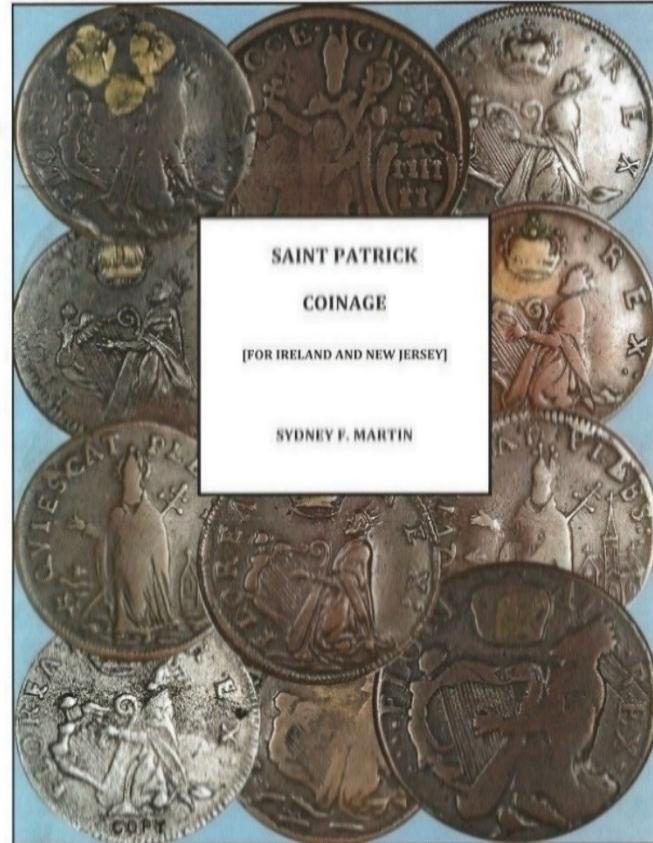
Price: \$95. Available beginning at the C4 Convention, November 14-17, 2019, from Charles Davis. Orders may be placed at Post Office Box 1; Wenham, MA 01984. Telephone: (978) 468 - 2933; Fax (978) 468 - 7893; E-mail: [numislit@aol.com](mailto:numislit@aol.com); Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 – 5:00 EST.

## Last Year the Colonial Coin Collectors Club Released The Definitive Book on the St. Patrick Coinage by Sydney F. Martin

Boston – May 27, 2018, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, (C4,) released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *Saint Patrick Coinage for Ireland and New Jersey*. This is the fourth book published by C4 that has been written by Syd Martin, the former editor of the *C4 Newsletter* and current President of The American Numismatic Society. His other works are *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*, and *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*. These books are all considered the standard references for these series today. Syd's latest work covers a series that has long vexed researchers on both sides of the Atlantic – the St. Patrick coinage. In researching this book Syd traveled to Ireland and spent many hours in the archives in New Jersey in search of clues, discovering some fascinating answers and developing several new theories regarding the coinage. This coinage has long been shrouded in mystery as to when and where it was made, and for what purpose. Syd discusses the theories that have been proposed so far, and the pros and cons of each plus some exciting new theories of his own.

According to Lou Jordan, the Curator of Numismatic Collections for the University of Notre Dame, this book is “groundbreaking!” Phil Mossman, former editor of *The Colonial Newsletter* (CNL,) writes that “Syd has described in detail the visual imagery and icons symbolized on these coins by hand-engraved dies. A total of 197 varieties of small St. Patrick coins have been meticulously cataloged by him and presented in an easy-to-follow format.” Mossman went on to state that “the nine varieties of large St. Patrick coppers, identified as a separate entity, are equally well presented.” Christopher McDowell, editor of CNL, states that “this is the most important book on colonial numismatics to be published in many years. It is doubtful that this book will ever be surpassed in its coverage of the series. If you collect St. Patrick coinage or are interested in colonial numismatics, this book is a must-have.”

In many ways this work is a collaborative effort, helped by many collectors who shared access to their St. Patrick collections for Syd to examine and photograph. The result is the first complete and illustrated catalogue of all known varieties in the series; unlike Syd's earlier three books, this one features color photographs. Other topics covered include the manufacturing history of the coins, literary discussion of the series, a history of their circulation in America, and a fascinating Appendix that includes what Syd calls “Miscellany.” According to Phil Mossman, what Syd calls “Miscellany” is actually “well-researched inquiries into the lineage of an elusive series.” C4 is very proud to publish this book and its long association with Syd Martin.



The 528-page book is hardbound, with color illustrations throughout of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket. *Saint Patrick Coinage: For Ireland and New Jersey*, by Sydney F. Martin, is available for \$95 for C4 members or \$125 for nonmembers of C4, plus \$7.25 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (numisbook.com,) Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933.

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The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :

<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob> ..

<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/asset.aspx?id=QEjfzd5ZR~x~8=>

\* \* \* \*

**The Colonial Coin Collectors Club announces a 2<sup>nd</sup> printing:  
*CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT HALFPENNY AND  
FARTHING FAMILIES, 2<sup>nd</sup> PRINTING***

**By Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston**

This monograph is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics: it breaks down the vast number of different varieties into related groups called Families. A Family of contemporary counterfeits is a group of coins that likely came from the same minting operation at about the same time. Families are logical groups that share one or more of the following attributes: dies, die making punches, or similarities in the design style. This updated large format, glossy hardcover, 294 pages and profusely illustrated in color will be available in July for \$54.95 from Barnes & Noble, Amazon books, and other mass market retailers. Check specifically for ISBN 978-1-64255-857-9.

Comments on *Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny and Farthing Families*:

Jim Rosen, Past President, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.:

“Finally, a wonderful and badly needed reference book of extraordinary importance that for the first time begins the monumental task of putting order to the unorganized field of counterfeit halfpence and farthings.”

**Contemporary Counterfeit  
Halfpenny & Farthing Families**

By Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston



This book is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics.

## **FRENCH COINAGE SPECIFICALLY FOR COLONIAL AMERICA**

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, C4, released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*. This is the third colonial coin book published by C4 written by Syd Martin. Other works include *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood* and *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*. The Rosa and Hibernia books are now considered standard references for those coinages and Syd's long-awaited new book is expected to become the leading reference works on French Coinage minted for circulation in North America. According to Lou Jordan, the curator of numismatic collections for the University of Notre Dame, "Sid Martin has written the definitive catalog of French coinage authorized specifically for use in North America." Jordan went on to state that "this is an essential book for anyone interested in the French coinage of colonial North America."

"What many early American coin collectors fail to recognize," Martin said upon the book's release, "is that from the 16th century until 1763, New France included much of what is now the United States, as well as most of Canada. As such, coins minted by France for circulation in its North American colonies should be considered 'coins of the realm' in these areas." Colonial numismatic expert, John Kraljevich, went on to explain that "the history of the French in what is today the United States is largely forgotten. However, the memory of these people and their coinage has been long cherished in Canada."

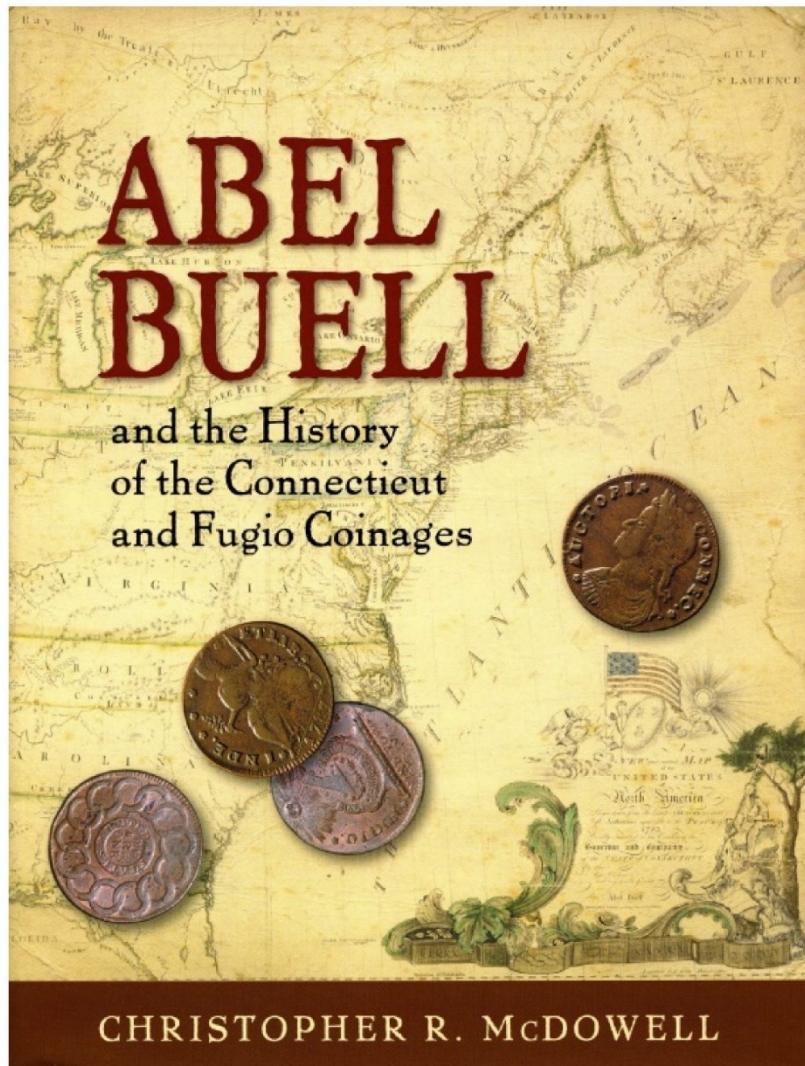
Jim Rosen, president of C4, predicts that "Martin's new book will awaken an interest in both the history of the French speaking people in North American and the coins they used such as the *Gloriam Regni* coins of 1670, the 6 and 12-denier copper coins minted in 1717, and the copper 9-denier coins from 1721 and 22, all of which were struck in France specifically for circulation in the Americas."

In the book's introduction, John Kraljevich writes that, "With Crosby-like flair, Syd has marshaled together the original documents that tell the stories of these coinages. Most have never been published at all, let alone in English or all in one place. This original research guarantees this work's importance to researchers in every forthcoming generation. The heart of this book, the die studies, offers several pathways for collectors to navigate these series, by basic type, by major variety, by die combination, or even by die state. It's a project that no one has ever even attempted before, an outlier in the world of colonial numismatics, a field that has seen multiple die studies of most of the popular series. Given Syd's well-organized approach and the thousands of coins he's studied, it may be generations before this work is supplanted. It's doubtful anyone will ever do it any better."

The 480-page book is hardbound, well-illustrated throughout with photographs of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket depicting French Coinage. The book is available for \$85.00 plus \$7.00 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (<http://www.numisbook.com/>), Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Support the C4 Club education initiatives buy this book:**



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## C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4,) visit the C4 website at [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org). These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website: [www.numisbook.com](http://www.numisbook.com).

- (1) Howes, Jack, Rosen, James and Trudgen, Gary. *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills*, Coin Collectors Club, 2021. Price: \$65. This title also available from Kolbe & Fanning Numismatic Booksellers. See announcement above.
- (2) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: \$10.
- (3) McDowell, Christopher R., *Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015. Price \$85.
- (4) Martin, Sydney. *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2016. Price \$85.
- (5) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: \$50.
- (6) Martin, Sydney. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2012. Price \$50.
- (7) Martin, Sydney. *St. Patrick Coinage for Ireland and New Jersey*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2018. Price \$95.
- (8) Moore, Roger, *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2019, Price \$95.

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## PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Craig McDonald. The new provisional members are:

|                        |                    |                     |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Robert Bransfield - NJ | John Lostys - NJ   | Tom Scopp - FL      |
| Richard Huck - CT      | Eric Pederson - NV | Shantanu Singh - WI |

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I am in the process of researching information pertaining to the Talbot, Allum & Lee series. I am seeking assistance from C-4 members who may have knowledge regarding the evolution of the series and the coins that were issued. I possess the basic series including all mules. If you have any unique or off metal pieces, or a half cent struck over a Talbot piece I would love to have access to them if possible.

Please contact Arnold Miniman at [ahminiman@gmail.com](mailto:ahminiman@gmail.com), or (201) 317-4199.

## **EAC PUBLISHES ECKBERG BOOK ON HALF CENTS**

On May 1, 2019 Early American Coppers (EAC) proudly announced the publication of ***The Half Cent, 1793-1857: The Story of America's Greatest Little Coin***, by William R. Eckberg. EAC's second book, it is an important new reference on one of the first denominations coined by the United States of America.

This book tells the story of the half cent from its antecedents and models through its first release in 1793 to its end in 1857. Why did we ever have such a small denomination, anyway? Who made them? When were they made? How many are known of each variety? How are the coins graded today? All these questions and more are clearly addressed.

This hard cover book is 8½" x 11" and profusely illustrated in full color with high resolution photos. All business strike half cent obverses and reverses are illustrated by full color 3.5" photos.

Because of the way they were made, and because they were the money of the people, half cents have a charm and character that few other denominations can have, and this charm and interest come through clearly in the book.

Eckberg says he wrote the book because much new research about the coins' design, engraving and manufacture has been developed since the Cohen and Breen books of 35 years ago, and that has allowed him to correct a number of misconceptions about the series and other early coins of the U.S. Mint. This research, much of it by the author, has come from the study of early Mint documents and the coins themselves. His study of the early half cents' manufacture has provided important new insights into the operation of the early U.S. Mint and into how other denominations were created as well.

Dr. Harry E. Salyards, editor of *Penny-Wise*, the quarterly journal of EAC, writes:

"Until now, the half cent has lacked an author able to write in an engaging conversational style while incorporating solid research evidence. As a trained scientist and lifelong teacher, Bill Eckberg is well suited to become the first to do so. Among the literature of early American copper as a whole, we have had homey narratives littered with pseudoscience, and *ex-cathedra* pronouncements aplenty. We have also had way too much 'history' written in the past subjunctive: narratives introducing each unsupported assertion with a phrase such as, 'Surely there would have been. . .'

"You will find none of that sort of thing here. What you will find is the voice of an enthusiastic collector who has made some unexpected discoveries over the course of his thirty years' pursuit of the American half cent—a fascinating and still underappreciated series."

Every collection of U.S. coins should contain at least a few half cents. Scarcer as a denomination than the key Lincoln cent, the 1909-S VDB, they are truly rare coins. Yet, most half cents are remarkably affordable to the average collector. A U.S. series that is both rare and affordable? Yes! Still, most collectors only know them as type coins, if at all. This book will serve

as an interesting and informative introduction to the series for those who are unfamiliar with it and will provide enough new knowledge to satisfy even the most advanced specialists.

The book is available from <http://halfcentbook.com>. The cover price is \$125, but members of EAC, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Numismatic Bibliomania Society and the American Numismatic Association may order it for \$95 plus shipping. For quantities of 10 or more, please contact [halfcent@icloud.com](mailto:halfcent@icloud.com).

\* \* \* \* \*

I need help in a project that will turn into a *C4 Newsletter* article on estimating the surviving population of State Coinages. I am developing a model but need to better understand how many NJ coppers collectors hold. Only aggregated data will be used. I am looking for information on total number of NJ coppers, number recovered (dug,) number purchased, and number sold in last 12 months or longer periods if available. I am looking for data from any size collections or accumulations.

**J. Howes;** 19967 East Doyle; Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236; 313 319-1743

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues**

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are \$10 for the first and \$8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

[dughistory@juno.com](mailto:dughistory@juno.com)

609-261-6662 (Home)

\* \* \* \* \*

I'm currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the Castorland jeton. I'm approaching the study from both sides of the Atlantic, relying heavily on French sources, and my study entails operational details from the manufacture of flans to the mechanical workings of the screw press; the history of jetons as they evolved from arithmetical counters to monarchial presentation pieces; events leading up to the establishment of the New York Company; the biography of Benjamin Duvivier; etc. culminating in detailed descriptions of variants struck from at least one original die. As you can see it's a big work, but I've been at it quite a few years and am wonderfully engaged in the project. Here is a "finding list" of details I'm looking for, as well as photos if possible:

1. If the specimen is in a slab, all the label information.
2. Identify the metal, gold, silver, copper, bronze. If silver, indicate thin or thick planchet.
3. If edge-stamped, identify the symbol and the lettering and location of the stamping (such as 6 o'clock relative the obverse.)
4. Die alignment: coin turn/medal turn.
5. Describe state of any reverse die failure, perceptible bulge, advanced crack, etc.
6. Describe reverse caustic incursion, sometimes identified as rust, at the right handle of the vessel.
7. Describe any other identifying factors such a rim bumps, scratches, spots, unfilled letters of legends, etc. that would help identify the piece if it were re-encapsulated at some future time.
8. Indicate the provenance, if known. If you currently own the specimen, feel free to identify it ex your name for the benefit of future owners.

Please contact Chester L. Sullivan at [csull@ku.edu](mailto:csull@ku.edu).

## CLASSIFIED ADS

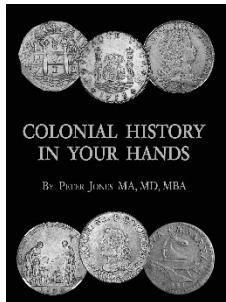
Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

|          | 1 issue | 2 issues | 3 issues | 4 issues | Copy Size |
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| 1 page   | \$300   | \$450    | \$600    | \$750    | 6" x 9"   |
| 1/2 page | \$175   | \$250    | \$325    | \$400    | 6" x 4.5" |

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire – generally \$200 additional.) Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

**NOTICE:** The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.



**A textbook of colonial American coinage, by Peter Jones, MA, MD, MBA. 597 letter size pages, including almost 300 full page color photographs of colonial coins. Hardback with 1,900-word index. Profusely illustrated. Contents include:** Classification, glossary, metrology. **British Royal authorized:** Baltimore, Holt, Rosa, Hibernia, Regal, VA. **French Royal only for colonies:** Gloriam Regni, 9 denier, stampees, Cayenne French Royal domestic export for colonies: mousquetaires, sous marqués. John Law, Chameau, **Locally made tokens:** MA silver, Higleys, MD silver, **Imported tokens:** Newby, Voce Populi, Pitt, RI Ship, State copper coinage. **Proposed & actual federal Optional:** Washingtonia, Condor, Commodity money Trade Coins, Coins which should not be in Red Book, Little used pieces, 1776 Journals of Continental Congress. **Visit:** [store.bookbaby](http://store.bookbaby.com)—> **colonial history.** **Apply code SIXTYOFF - Net price \$89.**



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**For Sale to a Good Home: Must provide References of Good Care of Colonials**

Continental Currency, 2 November 1775, \$8, Choice AU, No Folds, Pinholes or any other problems  
 Continental Currency, 14 January 1779, \$70, Nice AU, No Folds or Pinholes

New York Currency 16 February 1771 £5, AU with a light fold, Bold Print, Clean Note, Small repair at front bottom center. Elaborate Top Boarder.

1787 Conn. Mi-1.1a, F-15, smooth surfaces, Nice Coin in a collectible Grade, Small Head Type

1787 Conn. Mi-1-1a, VF with obv roughness, net F-15, Pleasant Looking Coin, Small Head Type

1794 Ready Reckoner, Daniel Fenning, Newburyport MA., Cover and some pages detached but all are present, contains a Coin Table.

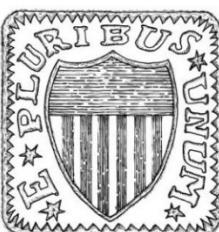
Also, some Non Colonials (Including Coin World Tokens) For Sale, Let me know your interests.

**Call/Email for prices & pictures. [Leo\\_J\\_Shane@hotmail.com](mailto:Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com) 215-873 1915**



1787 M 38-I.2 R4 CC? AUCIORI PCGS VF35 373.35/08508567 – 5/30, 6/1/2012 Long Beach - \$910. \*\* 1787 M48-G.5 R5+ CC? PCGS VF30 370.30/33032094 - \$485. \*\* 1786 M 5.1-H.1 R6 133.4 gns XXXs Rev, Clip obv. - blue 2x2 w coin+Craige Env. Stacks 6/13 #45 - \$ 1075. \*\* 1787 M 36- L.1 R5+ 139.6 gns Obv Hi Cheek Stria - Rev Some Spotting – Craige Env from Cyril Howley, Stacks 6/2013 #97 - 3x3 clear auction flip - \$220 \*\* 1787 M37.13-HH R5 Stacks 1/13 #11249 - blue 2x2 w/coin + TED CRAIGE / STACKS 12/14/63 ENV - \$215 \*\* 1787 M38-GG AUCIORI R4 - blue 2x2 wcoin + TED CRAIGE Env, Stacks 1/2013 #11252 - \$220 \*\* Raw M 32.4 - X.5 - dark, double clip, rot. rev. - dateless - off center - R5+ - 106.3gns. - \$200 \*\* RAW M 26-KK 1 - ET LIB -- R5 LDS Rev - \$175 \*\* Raw M32.5-aa INDE/FUDE - R4 - 10-11 O/C CLIP - \$145 \*\* Raw M31.1-gg.1 – ET LIR R3 - Fine - \$165

Rich Nadeau; 1 Lisa Ave; Raymond, NH 03077. Email: [NPJR2@earthlink.net](mailto:NPJR2@earthlink.net). Ph: 603-244-2500 (Up to 8 PM Eastern Time only)



A New NJ Copper!! And it's Square! A unique creation from a Crazy Jersey Collector. I've been developing this for several years and finally put my vision to pen and paper. Being a Jersey Copper specialist why not make a Square Jersey? Pure Copper, ~31.75 x 31.75 mm; In two finishes: Raw and Antique. Very limited production: 100 Raw copper, 100 Antique copper and 10 silver, each signed on edge by the Artist. Prices: Copper \$24.95+\$1.95 S&H, Both \$43.95+\$2.95, Silver \$145.95+Free S&H. Obtain this unique copper by writing the creator at [mdemling@mdaarchitects.com](mailto:mdemling@mdaarchitects.com), or, Michael Demling; 1750 Zion Rd. Suite 106A; Northfield, NJ 08225



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|                                           |          |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1789 Mott Token thin pl., plain edge      | \$110    |
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| Pa398 1821 Phila. Museum Peale Token      | \$180    |
| Med 3 1828 Jackson Election Medalet holed | \$35     |
| 1712 D Lyon 30 Deniers                    | \$30     |

Please add \$4 postage.

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**Bent, Holed, & Folded: Coin Talismans for Protection against Misfortune & Witchcraft in Colonial Jamestown.** (150+ pages; over 150 references) **\$19.95**

I present new information about how the colonists at Jamestown mutilated coins to fashion magical talismans. I review post-medieval English traditions about Divine Providence, Dead Saints, and Witchcraft and show how these ideas were brought to the New World. Talismans from Maryland and Massachusetts are also discussed. I have spent several years examining the coins excavated at Jamestown, most of them not yet available for public viewing. This book is fascinating and unlike anything you have read before. My book is available from major Internet sellers. Order it from me, and I will sign it and include a four-page guide to collecting coins from Jamestown. Thanks, Michael Shutty Jr. at [mykshutty@yahoo.com](mailto:mykshutty@yahoo.com).



Looking for the following:

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